BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 9999 06376 095 1

No. CS 71. S893

1926-27

FROM THE
BATES FUND

Proceedings
Second Annual Meeting
Stowell Family Association

Incorporated

"Old Ship" Meeting House

Hingham, Mass.

Saturday, July 10, 1926

Ent.

X C571
S893
1926-27

Second Annual Meeting

Stowell Family Association

Incorporated

"Old Ship" Meeting House

Hingham, Mass.

Saturday, July 10, 1926

10.30 A. M.

Mr. Luther Stowell Conger, Prest; Presiding

PRESIDENT CONGER: If you will all take seats, please, the meeting will come to order. Our time is going to be somewhat limited as we are a little late in starting. This part of the meeting will be more or less informal.

We had planned to make a tour of the Old Ship Meeting House here. I will say that any who were not here last year, or any of you who have not seen the interior of this building from the cellar to the garret, should not leave Hingham until you have seen this historic structure. The attic part of it is especially interesting.

The original plan was that, after the visit through the church and the visit to the cemetery we would take automobiles and visit the old home of Samuel Stowell. We will probably have time to go through the cemetery before luncheon, but we will have to do it very hastily.

After luncheon we will assemble on the lawn for the picture. Then the bells will be pealed, and we will assemble at 3 o'clock for the full program.

At this time I am going to ask Mr. Clarence Hinckley Knowlton, Treasurer of the Hingham Historical Society, to give us a talk on the "Old Ship Meeting House and its relationship to the Life of Hingham." (Applause.)

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

MR. CLARENCE HINCKLEY KNOWLTON.

Mr. Chairman, I am very glad to welcome the Stowell Family here to Hingham. One of the early settlers of my own home town of Farmington, Maine, was Dr. Aaron Stowell. A good many of the Stowells seem to have been doctors. Dr. Stowell went to Farmington in 1793, taught district school for a year, and the next year hung up his shingle as a practicing physician. He practiced there the rest of his life. The Stowell house was one of the landmarks in the village there in my youth.

Some of the Stowells also left Hingham and founded the next colony that was founded in the eastern part of Maine. They were prominent people, and settled in the vicinity of Calais.

I will be glad to speak to you for a few moments about this old church, which was the twelfth church that was organized in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Several churches had been organized in the Plymouth Colony at earlier dates, but this was the twelfth church that was organized in the Massachuetts Bay Colony.

A number of settlers came here as early as 1633. The place was called Bare Cove at that time, indicating that there were not many trees around the harbor. Other settlers came, so that in 1635 there were 29 families, I believe, including the family of the minister, Rev. Peter Hobart. Most of these people came from Hingham, which is a small hamlet in Norfolk County in England, and among them were the Lincoln, Hersey, Sprague, Cushing and Ripley families.

When you consider the changes that have taken place in suburban towns today it is surprising to know how many of the descendants of these people who made the backbone of old Hingham are inhabitants of present day Hingham.

This group of people left Hingham, England, principally for religious reasons. The minister in Old Hingham was Robert Peck, whose name is on the tablet in front of you, where he is mentioned as teacher. He was a Puritan in religion, and did not like to see so much standardization and ceremony in the church services. He wanted to have the church services simplified, and when the bishop sent out some directions as to how the altar was to be fixed, and where the communion table was to be set—the bishop wanted the communion table set up high—Robert Peck, being of a violent and schismatic spirit, went ahead and lowered it until it was about a foot lower than the floor in the Old Hingham church. For that, and for having a private prayer meeting in his home where he catechized the children, he was fined and ordered to leave the parish. A great many of the parishioners went with him.

Peter Hobart was the first minister here. He was apparently one of the young men that Peck had brought up. He came here before Peck came, and was installed as first minister. Both he and Peck were Cambridge men. Cambridge was the seat of Puritanism, and they had imbibed it there at the source.

The church was organized and Peter Hobart was put in as minister in 1635. The first building was down the hill, about where the street passes in front of the Derby Academy. It was a primitive structure with a palisade around it as a defence against the Indians.

When Peck came over the persecutions were active in England, and he intended to stay here permanently. The church already had a minister, so he was installed as teacher. He only stayed about three years, however, as conditions changed in England and they sent for him to come back. He went back to England and stayed there until his death in 1656.

There were a good many troubles in the early days of the Colonies. People had not become used to the conditions, and new leaders sprung up and there was a great deal of friction. One of the most interesting contests was that which was waged over the captaincy of the militia company. A certain group got together and voted for one man, and they sent him up to Boston to get his papers at the State House. In the meantime another faction nominated somebody else, and the community was divided on that subject for several years. There was a great deal of friction, and the people of Boston tried to dictate who should be the commander of the military company, and finally succeeded in doing so. That is one of the earliest instances of the local inhabitants opposing centralized authority that we have in New England history.

Robert Peck's brother Joseph came over about that time, and most of the Pecks in this country are descended from this Joseph Peck. He did not like the way things were going in the Colony, and he took his family and some others and went down toward Rhode Island, where they founded a town which they called Rehoboth. That name, translated, means "Here We Rest." That would indicate that Hingham had not been a very comfortable place for them for a few years.

But everything settled down and no other serious controversies arose in the Colony. Peter Hobart took a very vigorous part in the controversy and was fined by the Legislature for being too vigorous. Then the people clubbed together and paid his fine.

He was followed as minister by John Norton. Very little is known about him personally, but a great many distinguished people are his descendants. Charles Eliot Norton is perhaps one of the best known of his descendants. Mrs. Abigail Adams was also descended from the minister in Hingham.

It was during his incumbency that the new meeting house was built. When I say "new meeting house" I mean the one which we are now in, which was built in 1681. The central part of this building was first built, without the two galleries. As nearly as I can make out, it looked a great deal like the Cohasset church as it is today, or the Rocky Hill Meeting House in Amesbury. That was built 100 years later than this, but it is a very similar church and still has the old colonial church pews.

There was considerable controversy over the location of this church. A good many farms had been acquired in the center of the town, and some of the people wanted it up there. Others wanted it exactly where the old church was. Here again the Governor and authorities of the Colony stepped in and said that it should be built on such and such a place on the land of Captain Joshua Hobart which he deeded to the town for that purpose.

The church was raised in three days in July, 1681, and it was finished so that the first service was held in 1682 or, as they wrote in those days, "1681-2," because the year did not begin until March 22d, old style, in those days.

The wing on the side where the organ is was added in 1729, in the following year, 1730, the ceiling was put in, and in 1755 the gallery on the other side was added. The pulpit was built the same year, 1755, and it is a very fine example of 18th century work. It was somewhat higher in the first place, but was cut down at the same time the modern pews were put in, which was in 1869.

It is interesting to know that before 1755 they had benches to sit on during the two-hour sermon that they had in those days. Sometimes the prayer was two hours long, also. There was no heating in the church in those days. I think the heating was put in about 1822.

There are a few of the old pews that have been restored here, so that you may have an idea what the pews were like. These are the box pews, and the central part of the church had the narrower pews.

Mr. Norton had a long pastorate. He was followed by Ebenezer Gay, who was one of the most distinguished men in charge of this parish. He was minister from 1718 to 1787. He was a man of very marked views. He was a picturesque speaker, and often chose odd texts and delivered very vigorous sermons from them. He was a liberal minded man. He got pretty well away from Calvinism, and was one of the first Unitarians. Although he was a Tory, he satisfied the people and stayed until 1787, preaching every Sunday unless he had an exchange. He was stricken as he was about to put on his garb to go to the service in 1787.

He was followed by Henry Ware, one of the first Unitarians. He left here in 1806 to go to Harvard Divinity School when that institution first became Unitarian.

He was followed, after considerable controversy in the church, by Joseph Richardson, who also had a very long pastorate extending from 1806 to 1871. Richardson, although the church divided while he was here, was evidently a strong man politically. He represented the district for several years in the State Legislature, then he was State Senator, and finally served two terms in Congress.

Another long pastorate was that of Calvin Lincoln, from 1855 to 1881.

Even the recent pastorates have been of considerable length. Dr. Carney was here 15 years, and Mr. Page who spoke to you last year was here 10 years.

A great deal may be said of the influence of the church in the town. The church and town were the same thing for a great many years. It was the town that built this meeting house. It paid 430 pounds for it and the old house was turned in. It is supposed that some of the old timbers were used in this building. The church is where the town meetings were held, as well as the other meetings, because this was the established church of the Colony. Later on the town meetings were separated from the church meetings, and the church society was organized to take possession of the building and the church members.

There have been three daughter churches from this old church. The first was established in Cohasset in 1713. The second was the meeting house in South Hingham which was established in 1742, and the third was the new North Meeting House on Lincoln Street which was designed by Bulfinch. That organization split off in 1806.

There was a good deal of controversy when Mr. Richardson was called to the pastorate. They did not seem to find anything particularly bad about him. Apparently the worst thing he did was to break his engagement with a young lady to whom he was engaged, and to marry somebody else. The second thing that they did not like to say very much about was that he had once offered prayer at what has been called a Republican political mass meeting. He evidently offended some of the old families in that way.

But the breach is pretty well healed now, and the churches are very friendly. This church tries to stand as a beacon light in the community. A good many of the old families are still members here, and a good many attend here regardless of their previous affiliations, and regard the church as a very home-like place. That class includes many of our best members today.

I thank you for your attention. (Applause.)

DR. EDMUND CHANNING STOWELL: Mr. President, may I interrupt just a minute for fear that I may forget it later? Perhaps all the members do not know that, in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, there is a record of the framing of this church. The framing of the roof of this church is extraordinarily interesting, and if anybody has a chance to go to the Metropolitan Museum of Art they will see that record there.

PRESIDENT CONGER: I am very glad Dr. Stowell has brought that out. That is news to me.

It is now about 1 o'clock, and we have about 15 minutes in which we can make a tour of the cemetery. Then we will return to the parish house for luncheon.

I want each one of you to realize that you are standing on rather historic ground for the Stowell family.

Samuel Stowell came here with Peter Hobart in 1635. The other day I ran across something in the History of Hingham in the Boston Public Library which was news to me. I was under the impression that Samuel Stowell came with Peter Hobart directly from Hingham, England, but I understand that is not the case.

Peter Hobart came to Charlestown in the first place, and then gathered a body of 25 or 30 people together, and they probably came to Hingham by boat. You will realize that in those days there were no roads such as you have had the opportunity to travel over today. He doubtless came by boat from Charlestown, and probably picked out the landing place which we expect to see this afternoon.

Samuel Stowell was a tool maker, if I am correctly informed, and a man of that character stood out as a prominent citizen in those days. I have no doubt that the adzes and axes and different tools that were necessary to fashion the timbers that go to make up this edifice were his handiwork.

It is exceedingly interesting to go up in the attic and see these hand-hewn timbers of solid oak. They could not possibly be replaced today. It is worth while to go up those steps and see the immense amount of work that must have been put into the building of this place. In those days they did not have electricity, water power, steam, or any of those things with which to facilitate the work.

There are a great many historic things to be seen in the cemetery. Peter Hobart is laid away there, and a great many close connections of those who are here today are laid away there. We will also see the spot where Samuel Stowell is supposed to be buried. I will go with you and tell you what I know, and if Mr. Knowlton will go with us he may be able to throw light on some things of interest.

(The session then adjourned for the tour of the cemetery.)

LUNCHEON SESSION.

Parish House, 1 P. M.

PRESIDENT CONGER: If you will please come to order, Rev. A. E. Martin, of Stoughton, will invoke God's blessing.

REV. A. E. MARTIN.

Our Heavenly Father, we come together with praise for the days that are past, and for the glory of the days which are present with us. We thank Thee for Thy provision for all our needs, spiritual, mental, and physical.

Bless us as we eat together, and make us to glorify the Great God of all grace who giveth good to all.

We ask it in the name of Jesus. Amen.

PRESIDENT CONGER: If I remember rightly, you folks liked to sing last year. I made such a poor attempt at it that this year I have brought someone who can do it far better than I could. I take great pleasure in introducing Mr. Howard Mayon, who will lead us in singing, and Dr. John Thomas, who will accompany him.

(Mr. Mayon and Dr. Thomas led the audience in community singing, and Mr. Mayon sang "Open Road.")

PRESIDENT CONGER: The captain of the bell pealers has just come to me and tells me that they are going to peal a quarter peal, which has never been done on these bells. They have one man here from Montreal and one man from New York City who have made this trip specially to peal these bells, and the only thing they are asking the Association is their expenses from Boston and return. I think we owe them a great debt of gratitude for giving us this program. (Applause.)

I want you to know your officers. All of the Executive Committee are not here. Some of them are widely scattered, and I shall read a telegram which I received this morning from one who is at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

(President Conger introduces the various officers and members of the Executive Committee.)

PRESIDENT CONGER: We are favored with a mother, three sons, one daughter, and two daughters-in-law. I am going to ask Mrs. Ella Louise Stowell, of Stoneham, to please rise at this time with her family. (Great applause.)

I was very much gratified when one of the members of the Association came to me and introduced her mother. I want to

introduce at this time Mrs. Frances Morse, of Medway, who is 91 years of age. (Applause.)

I am just wondering who is the youngest one here this afternoon? I have one at my right hand who is five and a half years old. Is there anyone younger? Will the young man please rise? I am glad to introduce to you Ralph Ward Stowell, five and a half years old. I think you will agree with me that it augers well for the future of this Association to see the number of young faces that are here today, and I hope that we can all strive to get more of them into the family Association than we have at the present time. We hope, as the years go by, that we can have a junior program for them.

I am going to ask Miss Priscilla Maltby, of Stoughton, to rise. She is seven years of age. (Applause.)

(Luncheon session adjourned.)

GENERAL MEETING.

Auditorium of "Old Ship," 3 P. M.

PRESIDENT CONGER: We will open our meeting this afternoon by singing one verse of "Faith of Our Fathers," after which we will be led in prayer by Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell, of Sedgwick, Maine.

REV. WOODBURY SWEETSER STOWELL.

Eternal Father, we pray Thy blessing upon our family gathering this day. We thank Thee that our fathers were men of faith who loved Thee, their God, with mind and heart and soul. May the faith of our fathers be living still in our hearts.

May we ever remember that we are Thy children, and that Thou dost want us to be in right relations with Thee during all our lives, and may we so live that when our summons comes Thou wilt say unto us, "Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the glory of thy Lord." Amen.

("I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes" was then sung by Mrs. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell, of Sedgwick, Maine.)

PRESIDENT CONGER: I am going to digress a little from the program as laid down, because of certain circumstances which will be apparent later on.

I have quite a collection of data here which I wish I could put before the members of the Association in some tangible way. I have tried during the last year to submit some of it to you by letters and by word of mouth, but I think somebody else can do it better.

A year ago last May, when we had our second meeting at Wilder Hall before we had incorporated, I brought before the Association certain facts which I wished I had commented on last year. I hope it is not far fetched or out of place if I should take this opportunity to read an extract which I prepared at that time which showed why the Association was brought into being.

"I might aptly take for a subject this afternoon, "Why Are We Here?" Probably some of you may have been somewhat curious as to the aim, purpose and direction of a meeting of this character. On the title page of the Stowell Genealogy, compiled by the late William Henry Harrison Stowell, of Amherst, Mass., is this statement: "To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root." To even glance through the pages following of the genealogy indicates to one very quickly that such an appellation could not be applied to those members of the Stowell Family, who took any pains to look into the matter.

From the early days back in 1630 to 1640 of the first Stowell in

this country—Samuel at Hingham—on through to Watertown—the Connecticut and Vermont Hills—on up through the Berkshires and then scattering or spreading outward as a fan until they reached the Pacific Coast—from the Canadian border to the Gulf of Mexico, and even out beyond the confines of the United States, has gone the name of Stowell with its wealth of culture, sturdiness of purpose and character and unselfish devotion to the demands made upon them in the various avenues of commercial enterprise and the activities of the country and world at large.

Landing at Hingham, Samuel Stowell was among the number of 30 who, with the Rev. Peter Hobart, left the Old World with the fixed determination of building for themselves a new home in the western hemisphere. This was back in 1630. What a contrast between those days and the present—then, hardships of all kinds to endure in making that new home; today, plenty for all coupled with the luxuries that modern science has given us. All through the ensuing years the members of the family have been in the front ranks of their fellow citizens, leading in good and honorable affairs, and while they may not have aspired or reached the highest offices in the country, still they have made for themselves positions of trust and confidence in their respective communities.

Take it right in our own state of Massachusetts. The second Nathaniel Stowell, of Pomfret Centre, Connecticut, was one of the Committee of Safety, who served so admirably at Bunker Hill. Several of his brothers also served with distinction in the War of the Revolution. Then on down—his son, Cyrus, of Peru, Massachusetts, up in the Berkshires (the highest inhabited spot in Massachusetts) was a member of the State's Constitutional Convention of 1820 and served for 13 or 14 years as a representative from his district on Beacon Hill, only a short distance from this spot.

I might go on and on, enumerating case after case, of others who have been first in their communities, but the foregoing is a good illustration of what has actually taken place in our family.

While talking with Dr. Charles Henry Stowell, of Lowell, Massachusetts, last Sunday evening, one who has been very deeply interested in the family and who has spent lots of time and money in delving into our history, remarked: It is very difficult for any parent to make their children interested in their school work. One goes through his or her task of getting a lesson generally in a perfunctory manner. Take for instance in the case of a history lesson, where dates are to be memorized. They can, after considerable drilling, be given correctly; but how much real significance did it mean to you or to me when we attended school? However, if we knew that our great-great-grandfather had served with distinction, say at Valley Forge under Washington during

that memorable winter, or that one of our ancestors had helped throw the shipment of tea overboard into Boston Harbor, or had been in the front with those who scaled Bunker Hill—don't you think we would be perfectly willing to read our history lesson once, twice and even thrice, if necessary, and that we would be very capable of discussing with our teacher some of the facts brought out in our history lesson. We undoubtedly would, and what is more to the point, out on the playground we would have been the center of attraction from our fellow classmates. This fact, above all others, is why you are here today. An interest in those who have gone before you and who have helped materially in making this country what it is today.

We are a large family. Its history can be traced back to the days of William the Conqueror. There is much that we can do for our country and for ourselves as an Association. "In union there is strength." William Henry Harrison Stowell spent 20 years of his life in getting together our family history. He spent thousands of dollars on a work which is conceded by authorities to be the finest family genealogy in existence. The printing and binding alone of the 500 copies he had printed cost $5,000.00. The work to the original subscribers cost $9.00. We certainly owe him a great debt of gratitude. Dr. Charles Henry Stowell has very ably compiled much family data, particularly his own branch, and had the same printed. If the good Lord is willing and permits him to live another six months, he hopes to revamp and add to his previous work much valuable information on our family. With all of the effort which has been put forth, is it not up to us to "carry on" the work so well done by those who have gone before?

As a lad I well recall in grammar school, back in my native state of Minnesota, when we were asked to get as a text-book, "Stowell's Healthy Body." Always in my mind rose the question: "Who was this Stowell—was he any kin of mine?" All through school days—on out into the business world—down to the recent great World War, when I came East, was this thought with me. Then in my work at Camp Devens, I visited Lowell several times. As usual to the telephone directory I must go to see how many Stowells I could find. Lo and behold! a Dr. Charles Henry Stowell. A call is made and I find none other than the author of my old text-book, "Stowell's Healthy Body." Interesting? Well, in the parlance of the doughboy, "I'll say she is."

Relatives, family members, do you know that there are members of your family and of my family who fought in the Revolutionary War, who were laid away in cemeteries that are now places of almost absolute desolation? Is it not up to us to see that such places receive the care and attention that is theirs by right of heritage?

Interesting, extremely interesting, is it to take a trip down to Hingham; view what is known as the old Stowell Homestead; on out to the Newtons; see the old foundation of the Israel Stowell home; walk over the ground where your ancestor, my ancestor, trod; look at the objects they undoubtedly viewed and discussed; on down into the Connecticut Hills, where to this day, although no known Stowell is near, the hills still answer to the name of Stowell. On up to the Berkshires, where on the highest inhabited spot of Massachusetts was once an entire colony of Stowells. Not one there now, but many a tale do the older citizens there tell you of the various members of the family.

We could go on and on, as I have remarked before, until we come down to our own generation with members of our family excelling in medicine, astronomy, international law, religion, music, art, politics and leading in various commercial enterprises. Is not all of this really worth while knowing about and banding ourselves into such a permanent organization as may be the means of our knowing still more about our illustrious family?

May I not ask of each one of you here assembled, that you make a solemn vow—that wherever possible you will do all that within you lies to help make this the biggest and best Family Association in America? It can be done. We have the brains, the brawn, and last but not least, the "wherewithal" to make this possible. As I said before, "In union there is strength." We are all "cogs in a wheel," as it were, and if each cog will only function properly great good can be accomplished."

To bring this Association further toward the goal at which we are aiming, we should get in touch as rapidly as possible from time to time with some 2,400 members of the family whose names we have in our mailing list. I want to emphasize two things this afternoon. I want to see if you will not back us up in furnishing necessary help, especially from a stenographic standpoint. If anybody is qualified along that line it would be a great help if we could have a card index compiled which would contain the names that we have so that we can arrange them according to states. Then we could take the pivotal states and work up our membership gradually from that list, as outlined by Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell, who was the speaker on this occasion a year ago.

As you all know by letters which were sent out in April, although some of you heard of it previously, I was laid up about a month or so during last year. I think the doctors were more scared than I was, as it never gave me any worry. I guess I got a good rest out of it, and while I was lying on my bed in the hospital I did a great deal of work for the Association, as they would allow me to read. When I got up in the morning I would go at it, and I would keep at it until I had to stop when they turned out the lights and would not let me go any further.

There is very much work to be done. During this year we have been in a semi-organized condition. Our treasurer attempted to resign about three months ago, because he was expecting to go to Florida. He is in Florida at the present time.

We have four of our Executive Committee with us today, and the rest of them are scattered in different parts of the country and are unable to be with us.

I need assistance and we all need assistance to try to get the work into a little more systematic condition than it has been in the past. No one person is physically able to carry on as I have carried on during the last 18 months with this work. I am not a slacker. I am willing to go to the end of the rope and a little further, but I want to bring home to you folks plainly that the work cannot be carried on in this way. It is not just to the Assocciation as an incorporated body, and it is not just to you people here who are members of the Association. Last but not least, it is not just to myself from a physical standpoint.

I have a number of communications here that I want to bring before you because they have been sent specially for this meeting. Two telegrams have been handed to me since I came this morning.

(President Conger reads telegrams and communications.)

Albuquerque, New Mexico, July 9, 1926.

Luther Stowell Conger,
Old Ship Meeting House, Hingham, Mass.

We are thinking of you and our other cousins assembled at Hingham in family reunion and wish you a very pleasant and enjoyable time. We hope the weather will be as cool and comfortable with you as we find it in the Southwest, where we are visiting the descendants of the original Americans in their pueblos.

MR. AND MRS. H. M. STOWELL.

Cleveland, Ohio, July 10, 1926.

Luther Stowell Conger,
Old Ship Meeting House, Hingham, Mass.

Deeply regret we are unable to attend the Stowell Family reunion this year.

HARRIET ESTHER BURROWS STOWELL
and RUTH A. DOBEL STOWELL.

PRESIDENT CONGER: At our meeting a year ago I read a telegram from Maria Florence Stowell. At that time it came to me out of a clear sky. I could not place her until I had looked her up in the genealogy. It seems that a copy of the Boston Transcript with the announcement of our meeting had reached Los Angeles a few days before the meeting, and she wired me that she wanted to be considered a life member and followed the telegram by a check for $25.

I have written her two letters since then, but I had not heard from her until I received a letter dated in Santa Paula which came by air mail. In my reply to Miss Stowell I shall say that there is not anything that comes to my hands in the way of Stowell data of any description that goes into the waste basket.

(President Conger reads communications from Maria Florence Stowell.)

Santa Paula, Calif., July 6, 1926.

Mr. Luther Stowell Conger,
56 Farragut Avenue,
Medford, Mass.

Dear Mr. Conger:

I have time for just a word. I thought I would send you a night letter, but I could not sleep one night and these thoughts came to me. As the message was too long for a telegram, I am going to send it by Air Ship.

If you do not care to read it at the meeting, just drop it in your waste basket.

I hope you will have a fine day.

With all good wishes.

P. S.—I expect to be here for the next six weeks, if I keep on improving. M. F. S

GREETINGS FROM CALIFORNIA.

Hail to the "OLD SHIP" the old meeting house,
Where our "Grandsire SAMUEL" worked and worshipped,
Many, many long years ago.
To this meeting house the STOWELLS are coming,
With their colors "RED and GOLD" aflying,
To do homage to the "DAMES and SIRES" of long ago.
One from California sends you Greeting;
And is wishing you great happiness and cheer.
May the day be so inspiring,
That your hearts with kindness shall o'erflow
Till all the Clan, both far and near, shall know.
And the BELLS! With their ringing, ringing,
What is the message they are bringing?
May it fill your soul with singing—
Till the Clan shall meet again.

MARIA FLORENCE STOWELL.

July 10, 1926.

PRESIDENT CONGER: I understand there is a letter enroute somewhere from the mother of our secretary, Thomas Johnston Homer, Jr., who is with her husband in England. The letter may be somewhere in Hingham at the present time for all I know.

Mr. Homer received a letter from his mother, and I would like to read an extract of it to you.

Someone was showing us a map of Dorset the other day and the word "STOWELL" popped right out at me. Tom thought I would probably regret it if I didn't visit the place, which proved to be

really in the lovely Somerset country. No one in Dorset could tell us anything about it (it was so tiny). We took the train from Dorchester (Thomas Hardy's home) to Yeoville (a rather interesting church with a chained Bible), from there to Templecombe where we hired a taxi to take us to "STOWELL."

It was a very lovely drive from Templecombe. We found nothing but a restored tiny church with a 15th century tower (not in good repair); an old yew at the front, one or two farms scattered about. We got the key from the farmer's (Hooper) next door. The oldest thing inside was a pew end (1670). We hunted up Hansford, a farmer, who had the key to the records. He had never heard of anyone by the name of Stowell and he had lived there a great many years. He sent us to the Vicar at North Cheriton. The Vicar, a most charming man, his wife and her brother, Brig. Gen. Marriott-Dodington, were interested and cordial. Gen. Dodington's elder brother is or was Lord of the Manor at Stowell, though he has recently sold his place. The Vicar gave us a note to Hansford giving us permission to look at the church records the next day. He thought Stowell was simply the name of a locality and that there had never been any persons of that name there. The name came from Stan well—stone—fount (see Collinson's History of Somersetshire which is probably at the Boston Public Library and the Boston Athenaeum). We spent the night at an interesting coaching inn, Wincanton, with a court yard, climbing pink roses, enormous blossoms. Catherine Testout, Queen Victoria stayed at this inn when a child. The next morning while prowling about Wincanton (the name of the inn was the Greyhound), I discovered a gate and an ivy covered passageway leading through a kitchen garden to a small Friend's Church, almost hidden by hedges and yew trees. You will find a paragraph about Stowell in Kelly's Directory (1923), the one which includes Somersetshire. There we found that the present church records went back no farther than 1745. Nevertheless we called at the Vicar's again (he has a very well known kennel of Pomeranians—Black Acre Kennels) and then had a look at the church records, written on parchment, and took pictures of the church. The whole episode was most interesting. Tom found Homers and Stowells in the Bristol Directory.

(The foregoing letter was written by Mrs. Ella Stowell Homer, mother of our secretary, Thomas Johnston Homer, Jr., while she and her husband were touring England this past summer. The "Tom" referred to in her letter is her husband.)

I wish to say that we are not prepared to say that the coat of arms shown in our exhibit is the coat of arms of our family. It is a picture of the coat of arms on the end of a pew in the chapel connected with Cothelstone Manor. I hope, through the efforts of this Association, to prove that we can make some claim to that coat of arms. I am very reserved in my statement as to our right to the coat of arms, because I have been cautioned not to make us appear ridiculous in the eyes of the English by claiming that this is the Stowell coat of arms. The connecting link between the Stowell family in England and our family in this country has not been proven. You have noticed that part of the letter I just read has some reference to that. I think it simply means that time will tell. If we have a research committee organized to get into it we will probably determine the facts.

But I do want to say that we have not tried to foist the coat of arms onto you as members of the Association as the coat of arms of the present Stowell family in this country. This is the coat of arms of the family at Cothelstone Manor as shown in the views in the back of the room which are for sale, and which you should look at before you leave here.

I have brought up this matter of the coat of arms more for the purpose of educating us as a family, so that we would know what the thing stood for.

I was at Portland, Maine, on Decoration Day, and I was very much interested to meet a young man who is interested in heraldry, and I hope we can get him to take hold of that particular part of the investigation together with Dr. William Stowell, of Bronxville. I have appointed them as a committee to work on that subject during the following year.

I have a letter from Charles Henry Stowell, of Lowell. I wish you could all know that man. I have only seen him three or four times, but I have a very great respect for him because of the conditions he has overcome. He is bedridden with a very bad heart, and is likely to go at almost any moment, but he is an exceedingly cheerful man, as you can tell by reading this letter.

Lowell, Mass., July 6, 1926.

To the President of the Stowell Family Association.
Luther Stowell Conger.

My dear Friend and Brother:

Congratulations on your great success and personal gratitude for your earnest work in the interests of the Stowell Family. Sorry am I that sickness of long standing prevents me from meeting with you all at our coming anniversary.

In my boyhood days our home was a meeting place for many business men. Mother said it was strange how these men always had their work and her dinner at the same hour! During the meal each guest would surely ask father if he had a relative in such and such a town, same name as ours. Father would say: "Nice man?" "Good looking?" "Pays his debts?" "Married and lots of children?" To each of these questions our guest was always ready to reply: "Certainly, Mr. Stowell; certainly." And my father's answer would always be: "Yes, a relative; cousin I believe."

These are the kind of folks, Mr. President, you see before you today. Again I say, "Congratulations."

"Happy is he whom neither wealth nor fashion,
Nor the march of the encroaching city
Drives an exile
From the hearth of his ancestral homestead.
We may build more splendid habitations,
Fill our rooms with paintings and sculptures,
But we cannot
Buy with gold the old associations."

I enclose a photograph of Thomas Stowell, M. D., London, England, sent to me during a correspondence of some 35 years ago. He said he had his genealogy in an unbroken line from Lord

Stowell and that he was legally entitled to a seat in the House of Lords, but thus far had been "unable to obtain justice." He wrote, "One look at your face and I could instantly decide if you were a Stowell. If so, your nose would be the first thing I would see as you came around the corner!"

I also enclose a photograph of the residence of Dr. Joseph Stowell, of Earleville, N. Y. He owned a large farm, and had a very profitable medical practice for those days. He was an own brother to my grandfather and in this very house my grandmother gave birth to my father, June, 1818.

I also enclose a pair of spectacles, worn for many years by another Stowell doctor, before and after 1850.

The woods have been full of doctors ever since I have known anything about the Stowell kind!

I send these to the Stowell Family Association Museum.

Let me tell you, if you do not already know, of a charming book, which you can buy in Hingham for $1.25. It is beautifully written and will be highly prized: "Hingham." Published by the Old Colony Chapter of the D. A. R.

"Fill, brief or long, my granted years
Of life with love to Thee and man;
Strike when Thou wilt, the hour of rest,
But let my last days be my best."

—Whittier.

Your past foretells your future, my brothers, and so I dream of great days to come.

Most sincerely yours,

CHARLES H. STOWELL.

During the past year we have been called upon to lay away five of our membership whose passing has come to my attention, their names being as follows:

The first one was with us last year—

EUGENE ALEXANDER STOWELL, of Billerica.

MRS. JULIA STOWELL LEIGHTON, of Cambridge, who was an aunt of Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell, and who was here last summer. Mrs. Leighton was laid away a week ago this afternoon.

MRS. ELLA LEFFIE RUSSELL, sister of Samuel Stowell Symmes, of Winchester.

MRS. ELLA BACON WILKINS, of Brookline.

MRS. MARY STOWELL HAMMOND, of Sharon, Connecticut.

They are all members of the Stowell Family Association, and I thought at this time it would be quite fitting for us to bow our heads in silent prayer. Then we will be led in prayer by Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell, after which we will join in one verse of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," sung softly.

REV. WOODBURY SWEETSER STOWELL.

Heavenly Father, we certainly are grateful to Thee for Thy kindness to us. Thou hast cast our lot in pleasant places.

As we have listened to the roll of those of our family whom

Thou hast summoned home, our hearts have been touched with a deeper tie than ever before, for we know that they have gone on to that better land, that other shore, and that when we ourselves are summoned we shall see them there.

Our Father, we pray that Thou wilt bless exceedingly this day the families of our departed friends, that Thou wilt be very gracious unto them and that Thou wilt give them peace.

In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

PRESIDENT CONGER: I purposely delayed introducing the speaker of the afternoon because there were some members who were arranging part of the program for me.

I thought we had gone to the highest point in getting our speaker of last year. We had a wonderful address and a wonderful time for a first meeting. In looking around for somebody to give us the talk of the afternoon I was reminded of a statement made by the sister of our speaker of this afternoon, when she wrote me that she hoped that I could eventually get her brother interested in the Association. She said that if once his interest was aroused she knew that we would have some worthwhile and timely service from him.

Mr. Leon Carl Stowell has certainly responded in a most remarkable manner to the note which I sent to him asking him to take that place on our program today. If you could have read the correspondence that I have received from him during the last three or four weeks, and could have heard the luncheon talk we had about six weeks ago, you would have realized full well that his heart is with us in all that we are undertaking to do.

As I intimated at the luncheon this afternoon, the remarkable thing about the interest manifested in this work is the activity taken by the young people which, I am sure, augers well for the future of the Association. I take great pleasure at this time in presenting to you Mr. Leon Carl Stowell, vice-president of the Dictaphone Sales Corporation, of New York City, who will talk to you on "The Pride of Background." (Applause.)

MR. LEON CARL STOWELL.

Let me first correct some grave mistakes which were made in the announcement of this meeting. I was reported as the orator of the day, which of itself is an embarrassment and, presumably for further description, I was referred to as good looking and married. I take mention of all three of these things (so devoutly to be wished for by myself) as a friendly boost, but in reality all three of them are misleading.

I have, however, one reason for claiming distinction this afternoon. My father was one of ten children. Of these ten, five were boys. Despite this splendid showing in the seventh generation,

I am the only one in this branch of the family by the name of Stowell to carry on my particular part of the family tree into the ninth generation and I am fast becoming middle-aged and still only a bachelor, however eligible I may be. They say also that the older you grow the more particular you get and the less attractive, so you can see that I hardly count as of any importance at all in our Family Tree.

Among all the gatherings in this country there are none so interesting as the family gatherings that we hear of occasionally, nor have any of them a reason more fundamental or justifiable. New England is regarded essentially as the part of this country where such family associations are principally located, for it must be remembered that if this great republic of America can lay any claim to ancestry it surely must be found in those parts where the early settlers located. Here, in the New England States, may be found a limited number of families which were among those who laid the foundation of this great country and which in themselves became such an integral part of the real building of America that today it is possible to find entire families who are known descendants of the early settlers of the United States.

Therefore, we are gathered today not to pay tribute to each other, nor merely to become better acquainted, but first to make a gesture of homage and gratitude to those among our staunch ancestors who lived so well in their day, and who so nobly transmitted to their progeny the spirit of right living, and the love of high ideals, that today there is gathered here, although only in proportionate numbers, a sufficient crowd of witnesses who can point, and do point, with an exceeding pride to their heritage as members of the Stowell Family.

As Americans, we all take pride in the fact that the people of this United States comprise a nation which in itself is the most cosmopolitan nation in the world. During the last hundred years, the United States has been the melting pot for all nations. People have gathered here from all different countries and by the admixture of the blood of all nationalities there has been developed that many-sided, brilliant-minded, highly-intellectual individual who stands before all nations as an American. And because many of us in the Stowell Family are proud to have merged into upstanding, loyal citizens, during 364 days of the year each of us faces his own world with the proud consciousness that he is an American, a member of the nation which leads the world in almost every department of art, science and literature—proud that he is a citizen of a country which by general right of principle now stands head and shoulders above all other nations because of its giant size and other attributes which mean world-leadership, but on this the 365th day of the year, we meet together to remember also that in the period which now lacks only ten years of 300, the

Stowell Family has remained a recognized unit in America. On this one day, we are prompted to reflect on all that has gone before, all that makes history within history, history of family life amid national progress. And I am going to tell you members of the Stowell Family that I, for one, deem it to be a great privilege to stand as a link between the past and the future—a bridge, as it were, between then and now—a voice which tries to echo, a heart which beats as your hearts do with blood inherited from those who lived clean lives and whose deeds were great because they were simple. My own father is here today. I cannot remember my grandfather as you probably can remember yours, but few here may be able to remember their great-grandfather, and when you think of the proudful fact that everyone who is assembled here is a member—a true member—of the Stowell Family who may go back for nine generations, and perhaps for ten generations (I am referring now to the younger children), therefore, behind these seven, eight, nine and even ten generations, you will find the name of Stowell borne by a man who brought with him to this country principles of right living, of earnest endeavor in 1635. He also brought with him background of ancestry as an enduring heritage. I want to tell members of the Stowell Family that we have something to celebrate, we have something to be proud of, we have a standard to be adhered to, and a heritage to pass along. In these days, we live at a faster pace, the world itself is developing at breakneck speed as compared to the happenings of even some few generations ago. If the first Samuel Stowell of 1635 was to step into our midst today and become knowledgeable of the one great development which has enabled this large gathering to assemble, overnight, as it were (I refer to the development of transportation), he would stand overawed and amazed. I do not need to carry you back 300 years, nor 200 years, nor 100, nor even 50 years, to impress upon you the miracle that last night performed when it brought you together from all parts of the country, as it were, with the absolute certainty of being present this morning. Then cast your minds back to the days when our ancestors performed some deeds which were mighty in themselves and necessarily ponderous in their development and there will be conjured up before you a picture of these sturdy men and women, kinsfolk of ours long since gone before, who did laborious things because they were right, and not always because they were easy nor even quickly effected; they thought right, they determined right and because their deeds were right they have endured.

Great men these were whose lives remind us that we too may make our lives sublime, and departing leave behind us footprints on the sands of time. Who then among us will say that today marks July, 1926, any more truly than it marks July, 1636, or

even more truly than it marks July, 2236? For, having lived for 300 years in the generations that have gone before, we as progenitors of those who shall live 300 years hence, are as truly building for the future as were those who lived 300 years ago. Year by year we shall meet as the Stowell Family Association; again and again we shall remember the days that are past and look into the future with the same self-reliance which sustained our forebears, remembering on each anniversary occasion that we gather to renew our obligations and to draw support from one another for what shall face us in the future.

Little, I say, did Samuel Stowell and the other Pilgrims who came from England to settle on these shores and in this town of Hingham know what was to grow out of that humble beginning. Life in those days was a good deal more of a struggle than it is today. I say that in the face of what appears to us a very complex and sometimes difficult civilization in which we now live, for today the obtaining of the necessities of life is a relatively easy matter. It is now not the necessities which present to us our big problems. It is rather the luxuries of life, although many of us have come to believe that what I would class as luxuries are, in reality, necessities, but in those days of 1635 and the years immediately following, it was an eternal struggle to obtain for oneself and family the things which we now think of as the bare necessities of living—food, clothing, protection for oneself and family; not only the protection from the cold of winter and the storms and the other hardships, but the protection of life itself. We have become quite accustomed in this day to pass the uniformed policeman on the corner, giving him no more thought or attention than any of the other indications of modern life which surround us. In those days the only policeman they had stood in the corner behind the door or was hung over the mantle-piece or in some other convenient place so that it could be immediately used when needed. That was the family rifle, and it had to be used frequently in the defense of the very lives of those who made up this community of Hingham.

In those days practically every man had to follow some trade. Samuel Stowell was a blacksmith and as such was a man who played a tremendously important part in the daily lives and protection, if you please, of this community; for he not only shod the horses and repaired the vehicles of the community, but he kept in repair the firearms of every family in the village and as such contributed much to the factor of their personal safety.

Life in America has changed mightily since then and what was a simple group of settlements along the Atlantic Seaboard, principally desirous for the independence of their religious thinking and the things which they needed for their daily existence, has now become part of a vastly complex nation, and the quietness of

these surroundings has given place to the roar of life which is all about us every day.

And it is particularly appropriate for us to pause in the midst of this, once each year, to come together and give some thought to those from whom we sprang and to the families of those about us who live today.

When I was invited to come to this meeting and have something to say from this platform, I began immediately to revolve in my mind the real reason for the existence of such an association and to visualize the valuable things which as a family we can contribute to American life today, for, after all, if we do not have some worthy objectives, if we do not accomplish something which is entirely worth while at these annual gatherings, such an association cannot expect to endure for a long time and become a thing worth while.

In my search for those things which we could do, I have naturally found out what has been done and, although I do not wish to usurp the field of our President's report, I do want to take just a moment to say to you that a tremendous effort has been put into this association's affairs, and I want to pay tribute to Luther Stowell Conger, on whose shoulders has rested to a great degree the carrying out of the program so far. From a close contact with William Henry Harrison Stowell, Mr. Conger has supplied the link between the splendid work which he accomplished in his lifetime and the carrying on of that work through some future arrangement of this association. Through his ceaseless efforts in communicating with individual members of the Stowell Family, he has built up this association to the very creditable showing which this meeting represents today. Through his own personal efforts he has interested such members of the family as Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell to take an active part in the work of the association, and I want to call all of this to your attention, not that Mr. Conger needs this for his personal satisfaction, for a job well done is always the best reward; but because I feel strongly that at the outset of this meeting this afternoon each one of you should be thinking of taking an active part in some phase of the work of the association for the future. Mr. Conger cannot carry it alone; he cannot carry it without funds, but, most of all, an association of this nature cannot be carried on to really important things without enlisting many individuals in it to take an active part in the different phases of the association work. So if you will, please, bear in mind during the time that I shall be telling you some of the things which I consider important to be done, that the success of those things and of the association itself depends upon your selecting one or more of the things which particularly interest you and volunteering your services to carry on that part of the work to a successful conclusion.

What are the worthwhile things to be done by this association? In starting the search for such things, I was reminded of the story of the man from California and, like all good citizens from California, he never lost an opportunity to impress on everyone the wonders of its climate, the beauty of its surroundings and its riches. He was visiting in New England and one day was walking down through a quiet street of a New England village. Soon he came to an ivy-covered church, the door of which was open and he had noticed that people were going in, indicating that some sort of service was going on. Feeling that the quiet and repose of a little church would be very restful and being interested in all of the various phases of the life of the New England village, he went in. To his surprise, he found a funeral in progress, so that rather than disturb the meeting, he slipped quietly into one of the rear pews. As was customary in that village, the minister soon finished his part of the service and then called upon each individual there to get up and say something about the deceased. Finally everyone had been called upon except the stranger in the rear pew and the minister said, "There is a stranger here. I do not know him personally, but undoubtedly he knew the deceased and I would like to have him say a few words." Whereupon the man from California arose and said: "I regret that I do not know the deceased, but now that I am on my feet, I would like to say a few words about Sunny California."

Our California friend was certainly what you might call a "booster." His mind was upon the limitless opportunities of that sunny clime, and I too feel prompted to hold before the eyes of all here present a composite picture of what can result from the activities of an association such as ours. While we are here first to pay tribute to those who have made possible for the Stowell Family a definite and progressive future, we have, as no less an object of our meeting, the years which are before us.

PRESIDENT CONGER: Mr. Speaker, if I may interrupt for a moment, there are some of the members of the family of previous years who have been very anxious to hear the balance of your remarks, and I think it might be well for them to come in, dressed as they were back in those days.

With your permission we will have the doors in the rear opened, and 1926 will be followed by 1912, 1902, and three of 1861.

1861—MRS. EDWARD MENDELL,
16 Lovell Street,
West Somerville, Massachusetts.

1861—MISS MILDRED P. STOWELL,
Freeport, Maine.

1861—MISS HELEN ELDER,
Billerica, Massachusetts.

1902—MRS. ALICE STOWELL ELDER,
Billerica, Massachusetts.
1912—MISS FRANCES MENDELL,
16 Lovell Street,
West Somerville, Massachusetts.
1926—MRS. H. A. DUMONT,
58 Pleasant Street,
Brookline, Boston, Massachusetts.

(The members of the Stowell Family of the periods indicated enter the room and take seats on the platform amid great applause.)

PRESIDENT CONGER: The idea, Mr. Speaker, is this: Next year we hope that the association will see fit to meet at Pomfret, Connecticut, which is the next place in importance after Watertown from which our family in this country came. There is an excellent opportunity down there at the Pomfret Inn, where the situation is such that we can have the house all to ourselves, with the church adjoining. The grounds are very spacious and the pageant can be carried out in costume effect. We will try to arrange for everybody to come with costumes suitable to the different periods from 1635 down to the present day. We wanted some of the members of the family to come this afternoon and give those here some idea of what they may see next year.

MR. STOWELL: I do not know that I know just how to welcome the members of the family of 1861, but I am very pleased to have them come in. I think this is one of the things which this association ought to do. It is something in which all of you can share. I am going to tell you what in my opinion can be done, and I am going to say first that I think this pageant which is represented by a fair sample only can be carried out by this association in a very attractive fashion. I hope all these young ladies heard me say that I am an eligible bachelor.

I know an association of this kind can only be carried on if the individuals in it find the thing which they personally want to do. If we can direct enough people to the things which are worth while for an association of this sort to do, it will become a very large success.

I felt that it would be valuable to the Stowell Family Association to search out those people who could say something about their own family association. The results are gratifying. The Nye Family, of America, through Mr. Wm. L. Nye, sent me a pamphlet setting forth the report of their first reunion held at Sandwich, Mass., in 1903. Mr. Frank A. Bayrd, of the Malden Evening News, sent me a letter outlining the activities of the Breed Family. Mr. William Ballou sent me a letter containing the object of the Ballou Family Association of America. Mr.

Joseph Belcher sent me a letter telling of the activities of the Allen Kindred of America.

I will not take your time to quote you verbatim the things which I learned from these sources, but I will say that it gave me an insight into the activities of other family associations which taught me that this Stowell Family Association of ours can become an important factor in American life and can contribute materially to that life and to the happiness and well-being of the members of the Stowell Family Association itself.

What, then, are the things which can be done by this association through the activities of its members? I will not attempt to enumerate them in the order of their importance, for that is a debatable matter, but let me enumerate, please, the things which can in my opinion be accomplished by this association to the eternal glory of all concerned:

First—Those of you who have read the Stowell Family Genealogy—and please do not take that literally, for I have a vivid realization of the magnitude of the book—realize that William H. H. Stowell was not able to complete the line from Samuel Stowell back through our English ancestors. Since he has passed on there has been some further effort in that same direction. I have in mind the trip to Europe of Dr. William Leland Stowell and his visit to Cothelstone and the tomb of Sir John Stowell. The pictures which he took are on Exhibit here today.

We must not be, you know, like the little boy in school, who, when the teacher asked the class to name the first man, raised his hand and said: "Teacher, I know who he was." "Who was he?" said the teacher. "George Washington," replied the little boy. "Why do you say that?" asked the teacher. "Because," answered the little boy, "he was first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen." "But," said the teacher, "don't you remember hearing about Adam?" "Oh,' said the little boy, "I didn't know that you were going to count foreigners."

If some one, or group of members of this association would take upon themselves the tracing of the Stowell Family back still further through the ages, it would be a valuable contribution to the Stowell Family Genealogy and an extremely interesting subject to tackle.

Second—Perhaps of much greater importance is the carrying on of the Genealogy from the point where William Henry Harrison Stowell laid it down at the time of his death and, at the same time, through elaboration, the searching out and filling in of those sections of our present genealogy which, by force of necessity, were left unfinished by him. Here again, I say, is an exceedingly interesting and valuable piece of work which could be undertaken

by some group within this association so that the Genealogy may be perpetuated now that it has been so handsomely started.

Third—No association or group of people, bound together for any definite purpose whatever, should be without a home—some recognized headquarters which can be pointed to as the center of all its activities. I am a member of a college fraternity. It has a memorial building on the site of the first chapter house where the fraternity was founded. The Nye Family has purchased and restored the original house in which Benjamin Nye lived. Fortunately for us, the house in which Samuel Stowell lived is still standing here in the town of Hingham. What more appropriate place could there be established for a headquarters for this association than here in Hingham where Samuel Stowell landed in 1635, and where naturally the Stowell Family tradition centers. Let us picture for a moment the house of Samuel Stowell, owned by the Stowell Family Association, repaired and put in good condition, refitted with the furniture of his period and established as a museum of Stowell documents, antiques, and materials of historic significance, not only to our family, but to all students of Colonial History. Isn't that a picture on which every individual here can dwell with considerable pride, a personal pride, if you please, in an accomplishment of your family in which you had a part?

Fourth—Here is another aim which perhaps seems much nearer to you and more easy to accomplish; namely, the establishment of a tablet in the New England Historical Society to the memory of William Henry Harrison Stowell to commemorate his contribution to the Stowell Family. Surely we all owe a debt of gratitude to William Henry Harrison Stowell. A committee should be appointed at this meeting to report to us next year on a complete plan of carrying out this particular idea. Please understand again that I am not attempting to usurp the prerogative of the President of this association or its other officers in suggesting that this thing be done, but I second that action most heartily.

Fifth—I have recently been a party to an interesting search which has been made in Heraldry for the accurate Coat-of-Arms of our Family. It is a subject which requires considerably more effort than has been put into it as yet, for on the face of it there are apparently two coats-of-arms of the Stowell Family with various changes in quarterings even on those.

Some interested group in this association should search out the complete story of the Stowell coat-of-arms and at a subsequent meeting the correct coat-of-arms should be presented for recognized adoption by this association with the necessary arrangements for a source of supply of that insignia in whatever form the members wish it. It is possible to have these coats-of-arms as stick-pins, lapel buttons, watch charms, engravings and beauti-

fully painted for framing in your homes; and there are in front of me, I know, some members of this association who will find it intensely interesting to search out the proper coat-of-arms and see that it is adopted by this organization.

Sixth—Perhaps I should have stated first the next purpose of this association as I see it and that is to complete its membership. Very creditable work has been done already in this regard. I personally have the feeling that we have not yet even plowed the ground in this regard and that we have in our membership people who enjoy the personal contact which comes from correspondence and personal visits, and that through such a group we can undertake to make this association representative of every branch of the Family wherever it may be found throughout this broad land. Probably I am coming very close to the subject which is very much in the minds of those who have actively been carrying on the organizing work of this association, but I felt that I must mention it because it is of signal importance if we are to undertake to carry out the many ambitious things which can be done by this organization.

Seventh—When I was in Washington recently I had the pleasure of a personal conversation with Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell, and I got from him another most interesting work that could be carried on by us; namely, the study of family characteristics. Dr. Stowell spoke of this last year and probably will have something further to say here today, so that I will not dwell upon that subject, but some of you can be interested, I know, to join Dr. Stowell in an intensive study of the family characteristics down through the generations of the Stowell Family.

Eighth—There was a time when my next suggestion would be considered in the realm of impossibility, but not today. I suggest that in the year 1935, on the 300th anniversary of the landing of Samuel Stowell in America, that an organized trip to England be carried out and that an endeavor be made to have a substantial representation of the Stowell Family taken on that trip. It is an ambitious scheme, yes; and yet it is quite possible of realization, for, after all, a trip to England today is nothing extraordinary and is not at all difficult of carrying out. When the French Lines advertise a round trip to Europe for $? it gives you some indication of how near to all of us the possibility of a trip to Europe has become. I have personally traveled more than 30,000 miles since January 1, 1926, and, although perhaps that is exceptional, it is a fair indication of how nearby, if you please, most of the points on this globe of ours are today and, although I do not wish to lay too much stress upon this particular project, I do feel that it has real possibilities, that a substantial number of members of the association can be enlisted in such a project and that it is worth while for some committee to take upon itself

an investigation of the possibilities of such a trip, the reasons why it would be worth while, the program of what could be done while there, and report its findings to the next meeting of this association.

Ninth—Now I have in mind two things which are easy of accomplishment and which would contribute exceedingly interesting factors to the meeting of another year. I refer, first, to a group of speakers who could present some interesting incidents about the Stowell Family in different parts of the United States. I got this idea from the activities of other family associations. It has been a part of the Nye Family program, for example, to have papers read from Nyes of different parts of the country, pertaining to family traditions in their immediate vicinity. After all, there is great difference in the modes of living, the work, the pleasures, etc., of each part of these United States of ours, and I recommend for your consideration a program of some subsequent year in which the activities, both past and present, of members of the Stowell Family in different parts of the United States can be presented.

Tenth—And here is a thought for your consideration. A pageant in which there would be men and women accurately costumed for each generation of the Stowell Family. We are going to give you some samples on which to whet your appetites for such a pageant day. My secretary became so interested in searching out the costumes of these periods that I have in front of me an accurate description of the dress of both men and women for the years in which each one of my own ancestors was thirty-five years old. Short skirts were worn in the year 1705 by the men. That was the year in which my great-great-great-great-grandfather was thirty-five years old, so you see that the ladies of today come rightfully by their present-day dress. There are some inconsistencies, however, if they are copying the year 1705, for in that year long hair was the style among the men. It was obvious to me as we searched out these facts that the ladies of today could not have copied the dress of the ladies of 1705, for the hoop skirt was absolutely essential if one was to be in style, and those of you who are familiar with the New York subways will concede that the hoop skirt is an absolute impossibility today.

I recommend that a pageant committee start work at once in preparation of a Stowell Family Pageant for the meeting of 1927, and I shall shall be glad to furnish them with such information in this respect as I have gathered so far myself.

Eleventh—You will think my supply of things for the Stowell Family Association to do is inexhaustible, but I am fast approaching the limit of my comments in this regard. There are two factors, however, which can stamp this association as contribut-

ing substantially to its members and to the world at large. One of them is the establishment of a scholarship or scholarships to be competed for by boys and girls who are members of the Stowell Family. If we contract to help the boys and girls of this family to obtain an education which they otherwise could not have, we will have done a most important piece of work. How ambitious such a plan becomes is, of course, in exact ratio to the strength of this organization, but I want you to think about it; I want you to think of establishing scholarships which would give boys and girls of the Stowell Family an opportunity to carry on their studies in this country and possibly in England and who need such help in order to accomplish it.

Twelfth—One more item and then I am through. I believe no association of people such as ours have done their full duty until they have contributed something to International World Peace. I am one of the members of the Stowell Family who spent 18 months in the United States Army during the World War. My entire tour of duty was within the United States, but I saw enough of what war is to realize the vast importance of peace. The president of my company, Mr. C. K. Woodbridge, is president also of the International Advertising Association. That association as an organization has undertaken to contribute to international understanding and international relationship through business contact and business friendship. Just what part we could take I do not know, for there is no precedent so far as I can find for a thought of this sort being developed in a family association, but the mere fact that we all, as members of one family, are outspokenly working for international peace would have, in my opinion, a peculiar weight and a distinct appeal to the people of other countries; for we are not a political organization, we have no axe to grind, we can have no ulterior motive. I realize that in saying this to you I have touched upon a subject which probably no one has had in mind for this association, but I wish you would think about it; I wish you would take the idea home with you and perhaps another year some one can step to this platform and offer some concrete suggestions as to what we, as a family, can contribute to international relationships and if this thought was to reach no further than the limitations of our own family group, we could even so be a recognized power in expressing the non-political aspirations of this great American people. (Applause.)

So let me close. Certainly, if the program which I have been bold enough to suggest is carried out it would be a very ambitious one, but it seems to me that everyone here has an earnest ambition to do things worth while. If this association presents an opportunity to do something worth while to satisfy our ambitions, to contribute something which all of us may be

proud of, think of it, if you please, in the light of what we are contributing in the ninth, tenth and eleventh generations of the Stowells. If I was to put my finger on one of the great weaknesses of American civilization today, I would say that we do not furnish to the young people growing up, a background of family, a background of accomplishment to which they can turn with pride and from which they can obtain standards which will make them abitious to climb high in their own positions in the community and country.

I had the pleasure recently of attending the dinner which was given to Lieutenant-Commander Byrd on the day that he arrived in New York on his return from his flight to the North Pole. Senator Walsh, of Montana, was at that dinner and in commenting upon this exploit Senator Walsh said that Americans deal in impossibilities; that an explorer had made the statement in advance of Byrd's flight that it was an impossibility to fly over the Pole in an aeroplane and that it would never be accomplished. Yet it was done, and I am wondering if it was not done because of the splendid examples of exploring and flying that had preceded Lieutenant-Commander Byrd's attempt. You must know that in our own family circles there are many Stowells, both in this generation and in every generation in this country who have achieved tremendous things and whose achievements can be set up as examples for the generations to come and that from such examples and from the accomplishments of this association the young people of the Stowell Family can have a background on which they can build more substantial things. Some of us will be interested in one phase of the work of the association and some in another, but I ask you all to select some thing of real interest to you and contribute through that thing your share to this association. (Great applause.)

PRESIDENT CONGER: Some of these ladies feel that they have to go, but before they retire I want to say that our speaker wrote to me and suggested the idea of a costume pageant. I wrote to Mrs. Dumont to ask her help, but the special delivery letter which should have been delivered to her Monday night did not reach her until almost a week later. What these ladies have done has been done on exceedingly short notice, and I want to thank them most heartily for it. What they have worn this afternoon has been brought from their own homes, and I think it shows what this family can do if we put our shoulders to the wheel, even at the eleventh hour, and we are deeply appreciative of what they have done along that line this afternoon.

Mr. Stowell has brought so many things to you that, as he has said, you will have to take them home and think them over. I wish I had time to comment on them to you this afternoon, but our time is getting short.

If we had arrived a little earlier we could have made a tour of Hingham and could have seen the historic places. I hope we can do that after the meeting is over, and that those who have machines will wait long enough to take those who have not machines. Some of our members have come from considerable distances. Mr. Stowell, of Maryland, has come the greatest distance.

I wish the members of the association would appreciate the position in which I am placed in reference to its work. I am not trying to back water, but I am just trying to lay the situation before you.

I am busy all day long, and this work has been done at night time. I have sent out 250 letters with membership cards enclosed, asking if there are any suggestions you would like to make, and asking that you would please let me hear from you. I got three replies to the 250 letters.

After the efforts of the past 18 months the letters that I read to you this afternoon are words of the greatest encouragement. They do help keep one's morale up, because when you come home from a day's work and take up the work of this association, if you do not hear from anyone for two or three months you begin to wonder, "What is the use? Why keep persistently at it?" I am asked the question repeatedly, "Why do you do it?"

The topic this afternoon was "Pride of Background." It is well for us to know we are well born and to know where we come from. Personally I am proud to be able to stand in this historic spot and in this old building where my grandfather several generations removed was one of the pillars of this church, and make this plea to you this afternoon.

If you have time after the meeting, I would like to have you say a word to me, or I would like to have you drop me a line and let me know the particular thing you are willing to do. If we go to Pomfret, Connecticut, it is going to mean a great deal of hard work, in one sense of the term, but it will be easy work if you are interested in that sort of thing. I think we are all interested in it. Many are here today who were with us last year, and that shows that you are interested in this work.

It has been a splendid day. It has been splendid for the families to get together, to renew relationships, and to know each other. There are no two minds with the same characteristics in this audience this afternoon. Each one has his own particular bent, just as Mr. Stowell has remarked about Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell's mind running along the line of the study of the family characteristics.

The thing for us to do is to boil that thing down. The reason we had a reporter this afternoon was that we may get a verbatim copy of just what took place here. I hope that every one of our

members may have a copy of the remarks that have been made, but funds must be raised for that purpose.

Then we should be able to follow up our correspondence. The secretary and myself have many letters on file that are unanswered. I can use the typewriter very well, and if I had the time I could take care of all this correspondence. But we need help, and should be able to hire a stenographer, or two of them if it is necessary so that we can answer the letters that come in from time to time, in justice to those who have written to us.

I am going to ask at this time for the reports of the different officers. I see Mr. Jean Stowell has retired. He had a report on Genealogy.

SECRETARY HOMER: Mr. President, my report is divided into two parts. The first is the minutes of the first annual meeting, and the second is the secretary's report for the current year.

MINUTES OF THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOWELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.

The first general meeting of the Stowell Family Association, Inc., was held in the Old Ship Church, Hingham, Massachusetts, on Saturday afternoon, July 11, 1925. About 100 members were in attendance.

President Luther Stowell Conger presided.

The meeting was opened by an invocation by the Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell, of Sedgwick, Maine.

Mr. William F. Foster, chairman of the selectmen of Hingham, gave the association a formal speech of welcome which was responded to by Dr. Edmund Channing Stowell, of Marlboro, New Hampshire.

The Vice-President, Mrs. James B. Pringle, representing the Bunker Family Association, gave us a talk on her experiences in connection with an organization of this character.

Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were read and accepted.

Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell, Professor of International Law at the American University of Washington, D. C., gave the principal address of the occasion, outlining a little of the antecedent history of the Stowells in England before our common ancestor Samuel came to Hingham.

He also pointed out as suggestions one or two things which the association could ultimately accomplish, such as

First—A statistical study of the family characteristics from a standpoint of heredity and biology.

Second—An association trip to points of interest to the family in England, as at Hingham, England, and Cotheleстone.

The meeting was closed by singing "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS J. HOMER, JR.,
Secretary.

July 10, 1926.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR YEAR 1925-1926.

The association progressed by leaps and bounds since its inception a little over a year ago. The individual members at large probably do not see this in the same way that some of those who have been closely working for it see it. The officers have had to do their work in their spare time, and necessarily a great deal has been left undone. There has undoubtedly been some fine inefficiency and mismanagement.

We have, however, tried to do our best, and have been greatly gratified by the interest shown by so many of the family.

This is evidenced by the fact that from no membership at all on May 1, 1925, we have closed the first year with over 200 members who live in nearly every state in the Union and in about three foreign countries.

Our first meeting was held July 11, 1925, at Hingham, Massachusetts, with over 125 members attending. During the morning of that day many of them visited points of historical interest in Hingham. Chief among these, perhaps, was the home on Fort Hill Street of the original Samuel Stowell, who came to this country in 1635.

We all had luncheon together in the parish house of the Old Ship Church.

In the afternoon an Executive Committee meeting was held, a general photograph was taken, and a combination general and business meeting was held in the Old Ship Church. For a beginning it was a most successful meeting.

Gradually the work of the association is getting into control, and we hope to get into a more regulated stride in the ensuing year. New memberships are coming in well, and old memberships are being renewed strongly.

Fifty-seven ballots for the ensuing year have been cast.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS J. HOMER, JR.,
Secretary.

July 10, 1926.

PRESIDENT CONGER: May I ask that the report of the Nominating Committee, of which Mr. Samuel Stowell Symmes, of Winchester, was chairman, be read at this time?

SECRETARY HOMER: Mr. President, the Nominating Committee reports the following nominations:

President, Luther Stowell Conger, Medford; Vice-President, Dr. Edmund Channing Stowell, Marlboro, New Hampshire; Secretary, Thomas Johnston Homer, Jr.; Treasurer, James A. Stowell; Executive Committee: Luther Stowell Conger, Dr. Edmund C. Stowell, Thomas J. Homer, Jr., James A. Stowell, Walpole; Dr. Fred A. Stowell, Newburyport; Jean H. Stowell, Somerville; Frank Caleb Stowell, Medford; Winifred L. Stowell, Jr., South Weymouth, and Henry M. Stowell, Walpole.

MR. LEON C. STOWELL: I have been asked to entertain the motion that this report of the Nominating Committee be accepted. Will somebody make that motion?

(It was moved and seconded that the report of the Nominating Committee be accepted, and that the officers nominated be elected for the ensuing year. The question was put and the motion prevailed without dissent.)

PRESIDENT CONGER: I hope that we can continue our work next year and make as much progress as we have made in the past.

In connection with the remarks of the Secretary about the work that has been done, we have had a combination job of corresponding secretary and recording secretary. The job is getting too big for one person with the limited time which can be devoted to it, and I wish to submit to you this afternoon the suggestion that two new offices be created, one of corresponding secretary, to separate the recording and corresponding into two offices, and also an assistant corresponding secretary. Can I hear what you wish done in that matter? You are an incorporated body, and it is for you to decide one way or the other on it.

MISS RICHARDSON: Mr. President, I move that that be referred to the Executive Committee with power to act.

(The motion was seconded, the question was put, and the motion prevailed without dissent.)

PRESIDENT CONGER: James Allyn Stowell feels that distance precludes his handling the affairs of the treasurer's office. I can appreciate the position in which he is placed. He is traveling through the South, and it would be better if someone could handle it who is close by.

DR. E. CHANNING STOWELL: Do I understand that Mr. James Stowell has moved to Florida?

PRESIDENT CONGER: He has not moved to Florida. He is in Florida working for the people in Walpole whom he represents. His family is in Walpole, but there is a possibility of their moving to Florida.

DR. E. CHANNING STOWELL: Has he resigned?

PRESIDENT CONGER: He sent his resignation to me. He had done such excellent work that I did not feel I should accept it. I do not even want to present it.

The Nominating Committee have renominated the old officers, and I was in hopes James could be prevailed upon to hold the

office because he has been a most excellent treasurer, and his books are a model of perfection. He was speaking to me about it this afternoon and said that he thought he would like to get out of it.

DR. E. CHANNING STOWELL: I can see how it would almost force him out of it if his work is transferred to Florida. Therefore, Mr. President, I move that we accept the resignation of Mr. James Stowell from the office of Treasurer, and send him a vote of thanks and appreciation.

(The motion was duly seconded, the question was put, and the motion prevailed without dissent.)

PRESIDENT CONGER: That now leaves the treasurership of the association open, and we are in line for suggestions for nominations for that position.

DR. E. CHANNING STOWELL: Mr. President, I move that Mr. Lincoln Winifred Stowell, Jr. be elected treasurer, and that the President be authorized to cast one vote of the association for him.

(The motion was seconded, the question was put, and the motion carried without dissent.)

PRESIDENT CONGER: The President has cast the vote as directed, and I will ask the new treasurer to come to the front, so we may all get acquainted with him. (Applause.)

I am not going to read this letter from Mrs. Homer, because we have not time. If any of you wish to see it after the meeting you may do so.

With regard to the report of the Treasurer, as Mr. James Allyn Stowell has been in the South the books were turned over to me. I have had no opportunity to go through them. I do not know whether it is the wish of the association to appoint an auditing committee to go over them.

I can say, roughly speaking, that in the trust fund covering the life memberships which have been received we had four life memberships last year, making a total of $100, which was put on interest in the Walpole Trust Company of Walpole, Massachusetts. On July 1, 1926, we had on deposit there $104.12.

On the same date there was deposited another life membership which came in from Mr. Arthur Harding, whose sister, Mrs. Watson, is with us this afternoon. Mr. Harding is retired Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy, and is at present at sea, I believe.

I am not able to give you any definite report from the treasurer as to the receipts and disbursements other than in a general way. I hope a detailed report can be gotten up and printed, and sent to each one of the membership. I can say, however, that we received some $300 or $400 in membership fees, and some contributions. Practically all of that money was expended in getting the association under way. There have been a few outstanding bills which had to wait. For instance, our incorporation bill of $55 has all been paid except $25.

We bought 500 copies of the Transcript last year for publicity purposes. That cost us $25, and that bill still remains unpaid.

An organization must have tools with which to keep its records, and I was able to get a second hand cabinet which was in very good condition in which to keep the membership cards. They have been separated into states under the name Stowell and under other names, and they have been separated according to the cities in the states. The folders have been numbered, and a great deal of that kind of organization work has been done, but it means more hard work to get things into shape and to get the letters answered and the data furnished to the people who want it. But when I get home at night and find 18 or 20 letters from different people throughout the country asking for information it shows that we are on the right track.

After coming out of the hospital last fall I went to Philadelphia, Washington, and New York, and I visited every Stowell I could find on our membership list in Washington. The result was that I found three members of the family who lived within three blocks of each other and did not know that they were related to each other in any particular. I went with Miss Elizabeth Stowell to see Mrs. Waterman way over at the other end of the city.

Miss Richardson, who is with us today, and who sold the tickets at the entrance, was in Washington at the meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She had been given the names of Mrs. Waterman and Mrs. Tarring, and had been requested to look them up. She was very busy and did not pay any attention to it until the Convention was over, and when she did have an opportunity to look them up she found she had been working side by side with both of those women during the time of the Convention.

I have a letter from Mrs. Waterman saying that if anybody from Washington attended this meeting today she would like to have them call the Stowells of Washington together and give them a resume of this meeting upon their return. I have written to Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell and told him I have appointed him chairman in Washington and I want him to get the bunch together in Washington and start the thing off.

Returning to the treasurer's report, the returns from memberships have been about $200. There have been contributions, some of which have come voluntarily to me.

Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell sent a check for $10 for a sustaining membership for two years.

We do not like to plead for money, but I think you folks will agree with me that you cannot run an institution of this kind without money. Two, three, four, or five dollars from each of you, as you feel able, is not asking very much, considering the time and expense involved today. We have our reporter and our music, part of our luncheon expenses, and different things in connection with this meeting. You have taken care of the luncheon part of it, but I am referring to the extras, such as cigars and cigarettes, and things that go to make the meeting worth while.

I also went to considerable expense with reference to the exhibit back there which I do not feel that I ought to have to pay out of my own pocket, because in the last year I have put about $250 of my own money in working up the details of this association.

We had our photograph taken, and that is going to cost money. You can get copies of it by putting your name on the photograph slips. The picture will cost $1.75 delivered. The photographer charged us $15 for coming, and the prints are $1 apiece. We have to prorate the $15 over the pictures that have been taken. I think the picture is an exceptionally good one. Each person is registered, and we can send a typewritten list of the numbers on their respective tags.

For the work of the next year the following committees are appointed. I will not make complete appointments for each committee, but the committees and their chairmen are as follows:

Nominating Committee for next year, Edmund Channing Stowell, Marlboro, New Hampshire; Committee for the 1927 meeting, Mrs. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell; Publicity Committee, Grace Wing, Portland; Coat-of-Arms Committee, Gordon Wing, Portland; Automobile Committee, Eugene H. Stowell; Auditing Committee for this year, Edmund Channing Stowell; Exhibit Committee, Thomas Johnston Homer, Jr.; Music Committee, James Allyn Stowell. Then we will have an Amusement Committee to take care of the little ones.

Now I want to ask you what you wish to do relative to the meeting of next year. We have a wonderful setting at Pomfret for the kind of meeting we are planning. It is just as fine a setting as you have here, with a broader and wider expanse of land. There are many points of interest there, for from that section came three-fourths of the Stowells throughout the country.

I had the matter of the meeting up with the manager of the

Ben Grovener Inn, which has been in that particular family for five generations. The church adjoins the Inn, and there are very fine grounds there, including a fine golf course and fine cottages, buildings with 50 or 60 rooms. If any of us find it necessary to stay over night they can take care of us.

A year ago Mr. Grovener wrote me that they would be very glad to take care of us and give us a very good time, and we will have a wonderful opportunity to bring out the pageant effect of which a suggestion was given you this afternoon.

Pomfret Center is about five miles from Putnam. It is a very wealthy section for New York multi-millionaires. The estates down there are exceedingly pretentious, and Pomfret School for Boys, one of the ultra-fashionable schools, is just across the road from the Inn. I doubt if you will have to go more than twice as far as we now are from Boston. It may be about 45 miles.

Mr. Stowell from Maryland, what do you think of Pomfret Center?

MR. STOWELL: It is nearer Maryland.

PRESIDENT CONGER: Mr. Stowell of Freeport, what do you think about it?

MR. STOWELL: I would be in favor of it if the majority favor it.

PRESIDENT CONGER: Last year three people who would not come here said they would go to Pomfret. None of them are here this year, but if we go to Pomfret Center next year they will be with us.

There are no Stowells in that vicinity at the present time. The only thing you know about the Stowells down there is what they call Stowell Hills over in Abington, about two miles from Pomfret Center.

The suggestion has been made that something definite ought to be done today, while we are here, to get a concensus of opinion as to what we ought to do.

MISS GRACE STOWELL: I am quite sure we would all enjoy going to Pomfret. My great-grandfather came from Pomfret.

OLIVE CARTIER: Mr. President, I move that we meet next year at Pomfret Center, Connecticut.

(The motion was duly seconded, the question was put, and the motion carried without dissent.)

PRESIDENT CONGER: I hope each of you will boost that meeting next year and will attend if it is at all possible.

I have said something about the expenses. Those of you who have already contributed toward the expense of the meeting in any way, outside of your membership dues, will not consider yourselves solicited at this time, but the only way that I can bring it to your attention in a general way is at a time like this. There will be a subscription list on one of the tables in the rear, and there are expenses to be met. Roughly speaking, I would think the expenses of this meeting today will be somewhere from $100 to $150, and the membership fees at the present time have not been enough to take care of it. If everyone would respond so that we could get $300 it would help greatly. I do hope each one of you will try to do your bit. If you think I am putting something before you that I should not, please tell me so frankly. I do not want to burden you with that sort of thing.

Let us close by singing one verse of "The Star Spangled Banner," after which we will be dismissed with the benediction.

(The meeting joined in singing "The Star Spangled Banner" and was then dismissed with the benediction by Rev. A. Edward Martin.)

LETTER OF MARY ADALINE STOWELL.

Venice, Italy, June 23, 1926.

Dear Mr. Conger:

Your letter requesting some account of my travels which could be read at the annual meeting of the Stowell Family Association, caused me something akin to consternation.

I have little strength and I make no pretense of being a writer. It is one thing to be able to interest one's friends and quite a different matter to interest a group of people to whom one is a stranger, even though the name be the same. However, if I have anything which others would enjoy, surely I ought to be willing to share it. So I started out to make some notes, which soon had to be tucked away in my trunk as I packed for the next lap of my journey. Not until today have I been able to take them out again—and now the time is up; for this must be mailed at once if you are to receive it before July —. (I don't know the date of the meeting.) I shall just have to jot down what I can about the first part of my trip and hope that my audience will not be too critical. I might cite the instance of pioneer days in the Far West, where a certain church displayed the sign: "Don't shoot the organist—he's doing the best he can."

It would be difficult to write anything at all without singing the

praises of the Dollar Line; for so much of my comfort and happiness on the entire trip has been due to the fine service which they maintain and the great courtesy and kindness of all the officials, both on board the steamers and in the offices on shore. In fact, it was this unique service which induced me to take just this kind of a trip, for it is "Traveling made easy."

For the sake of those who might like to take a similar trip, as well as to make clear what follows here, I will say that this line sends a boat from New York every two weeks, sailing through the Panama Canal and westward around the world, making stops in different countries where one can disembark and travel, to return to the port in two or four or six weeks and re-embark on the boat whose date best fits in with one's prearranged schedule.

If one does not care to stay over at each stop, it is possible to go ashore for at least a whole day of sightseeing, as all landings are made by daylight; and at some ports the ship remains two or three days. The boats carry freight as well as passengers and this makes them unusually steady.

Our first stop was at Havana, which was not so characteristically Spanish as I had expected; but it was interesting to visit the church that Columbus is said to have attended, and to drive into the country where we saw bananas, pineapples and alligator pears growing.

In Panama there was much more that was characteristic, both in the town itself and in the surrounding scenery, and in this latitude we were able to see the constellation of the Southern Cross.

Turning northward we passed stunning mountain shapes on the coast of Lower California and came to Los Angeles, where we had a day and a half, and San Francisco, where we stayed from Wednesday to Saturday.

From there to Honolulu is just a week; and our day on shore gave us much pleasure, particularly the drive to Pali, a view so beautiful that one can scarcely believe it is real.

A steamer leaving Honolulu is a pretty sight, for the natives have the custom of presenting their friends who are sailing with wreaths of flowers. These are hung about the neck like a long, soft necklace, and everybody has one—men, women and children. Some have four or five. Then, when the steamer starts, colored streamers are thrown out, and with the orchestra playing the whole might easily be a scene in an opera.

A little further out in the Pacific we were treated to something not down on the schedule—half a dozen waterspouts chasing each other and sometimes chasing our ship. Fortunately they were small ones, so there was not any real danger; but it was quite exciting to watch the funnel forming in the clouds and gradually stretch downward until it made its whirlpool in the water. One of the ship's officers stood on a platform with his pistol ready to shoot and break the vacuum if they came too near; and once one came very close to the boat, but turned and sped the other way just in time to save us a drenching.

Now my time is up and I haven't even landed myself in Japan, nor told of how we got into the war in China, missed our boat in Shanghai, and were glad to get out of the country by taking a Dutch freighter to Indo-China and Java, where we hadn't intended going at all. However, there is more time coming; and if anyone is interested to hear more of my exploits, perhaps it can sometime be arranged. Several of my friends have asked me to put some record of my experiences into pamphlet form, and I may possibly do so.

I expect to return to the good old U. S. A. in November. It is very interesting to travel, and it's nicer to get back home!

My best greetings to the Stowell Family; and if I have not written anything that is useful to you for the annual meeting, don't feel that you must use it.

Perhaps you will like to know that this paper is Japanese. One of my friends calls it a "letter by the yard."

Yours very sincerely,

MARY A. STOWELL

My European address is care Thos. Cook and Son, Naples, Italy.

(The foregoing letter was received by me too late to be read at the meeting.—Luther Conger Stowell.)

COTHELESTONE CHURCH

(Near Cothelestone Vicarage)

Taunton, Somerset

Translation of the Inscription on the Epistle Side of the Altar of Cothelestone Church.

Here hath been placed

John Stawell of Cothelestone

Of the most noble Order of the Bath Soldier of Foot

As his wife he led [to the altar] Elizabeth

Of Edward Hext of Ham in County Somerset

Soldier of Horse [of the troop] "Aura", daughter and heir

By whom he begot sons

John George Rudolph of their father [aides-de-camp]

Edward Soldier of Horse of the "Aura"

Thomas Ferdinand Richard William Robert

Daughters also Lucia Maria deceased [both] without issue

The Rebellion increasing

Great numbers of horse and foot at his own expense in

Aid of the King he raised

After the loss of his household, the destruction of his [estates],

[and the endurance of] imprisonments and other calamities

Upon the return ardently longed-for of his King

Charles the Second, rejoicing over that

Day he died

On the xxi. day of February A. D. MDCLXI

In the year of his age 61

To a father most dear George his son hath erected this monument.

23. b. 2b.

REVD. J. D. GEDGE,
COTHELESTONE VICARAGE,
TAUNTON,
SOMT.

On the South side of the Altar.

Hic situs est

Johannes Stawell de Cothelstone
Prænobilis Ordinis Baronei Miles
Vxorem duxit ELIZABETHAM.
Roberti Hert de Stam in Com Somers Eq Aur fil et hæredem.
E qua suscepit filios
Johannem Georgium Radulphum Patri superstites
Edwardum Eq Aurat Thomam Ferdinandum Richardum
Willielmum Robertum
Filias autem Luciam Mariam suæ prole decessas
Grassark peruetustæ
Magnas Equitum Peditumq: copias suis sumptibus in
auxilium Regis paravit.
Post peditam rem familiarem, ædium luctum, carceres alias: calamitates
Exoptatissimo Regis Caroli secundi reditu lætus
Diem obiit
XXI^o die Februarii: A° Dñi MDCLX^I
Anno Ætatis 61
Patri charissimo monumentum posuit Georgius Filius.

Translation of the Inscription on the Gospel Side of the Altar of Cothelestone Church.

Here lies John Stawell
Soldier of Foot of the Bath, son of John
Stawell Soldier of Foot, and father of John
Stawell Soldier of Foot of the Bath in
This chancel upon the opposite [side] placed: Who
Died on the twenty-third day of January
And in the year of Our Lord 1603.

Translated by T. J. Homer on the 27 June, 1926, with the great help of his memory of a rapid oral translation made for him by Vicar Gedge as they stood before the inscriptions on the 22 June, 1926.

On the Gospel side of the Altar

Hic jacet Johannes Stawell
Miles de Balnes, filius Johannis
Stawell Militis. et Pater Johannis
Stawell Militis de Balnes in
Hac Concella in opposito sit: qui
obiit vicessimo tertio die Januarii
Anno. Dom 1603.

With compliments.

I now recall that your distinguished ancestor
-on the distaff side- was the Revd. Homer Wilbur AM.
Compiler of the Biglow Papers.

J. R. Lowell.

T. S. Homer. Esq.

REGISTRATION LIST OF THOSE ATTENDING

THE SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOWELL ASSOCIATION

Luther Stowell Conger, #20A Garden Street, Beacon Hill, Boston, Mass.
Leonidas Townsend Kinch Stowell, North Road, Kingston, R. I.
Alfred Davis Stowell, North Road, Kingston, R. I.
Miss Josephine G. Richardson, Boston, Mass.
Doctor Edmund Channing Stowell, Marlboro, N. H.
Mrs. Viola A. Goding, Canton, Massachusetts.
Kenneth Lovewell Goding, Canton, Massachusetts.
Percy Hilton Howe, Brookline, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Emma Frances Stowell Newell, Derry, N. H.
Miss Mercy M. Hunt, Weymouth Heights, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Callie Ward Stowell, Dalton, Massachusetts.
Master Ralph Ward Stowell, Dalton, Massachusetts.
Henry Marshall Stowell, Dalton, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Sarah Evelyn Morse, Medway, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Emily Frances Lewis Morse, Medway, Mass.
Mabel B. Morse, Worcester, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Olive Stowell Cartier, Natick, Massachusetts.
Eugene Charles Leslie Morse, Worcester, Massachusetts.
Thomas Johnson Homer, Jr., Boston, Massachusetts.
Mrs. William Belcher Stowell, Riverside, R. I.
Herbert Jackman Stowell, Riverside, R. I.
Charles S. MacDougal, Warren, R. I.
Mrs. Lottie Hastings (Stebbins) MacDougal, Warren, R. I.
Richard MacDougal, Warren, R. I.
Warren MacDougal, Warren, R. I.
Robert MacDougal, Warren, R. I.
Helen Agatha Stowell, Stoneham, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Ella Louise Stowell, Stoneham, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell, Montello, Massachusetts.
Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell, Montello, Massachusetts.
John Milton Stowell, Stoneham, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Bertha Stowell Mendell, West Somerville, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Ella Frances Stowell Ruggles, Arlington, Massachusetts.
Frances Louise Mendell, West Somerville, Massachusetts.
John Warren Stowell, Federalsburg, Maryland.
Charles L. Stowell, Somerville, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Henry A. Dumont, Brookline, Massachusetts.
Henry A. Dumont, Brookline, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Elizabeth Stowell Maltby, Stoughton, Massachusetts.
Miss Priscilla Maltby, Stoughton, Massachusetts.
Miss Florence Martin, Worcester, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Bertha Stowell Martin, Worcester, Massachusetts.
Stowell Coolidge Goding, Canton, Massachusetts.
Rev. A. Edward Martin, Worcester, Massachusetts.
John Stowell, Freeport, Maine.
Mrs. John Stowell, Freeport, Maine.
Miss Mildred Pearson Stowell, Freeport, Maine.
Mrs. Helen Stowell Ratcliffe, Newton, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Kate Moll, Newton, Mass.
Mrs. Florence D. Stowell, Kingston, R. I.
Mildred Florence Stowell, Kingston, R. I.
Mrs. Abbie Augusta Sweet Lang, Antrim, N. H.
Mattie Luce Stowell, Somerville, Massachusetts.
Grace Ludlow Stowell, Somerville, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Marian Webster Sandbrook, Brookline, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Carrie Stowell, Schenectady, N. Y.
A. C. Stowell, Schenectady, N. Y.
H. A. Stowell, Northampton, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Harry Ashton Stowell, Northampton, Massachusetts.
Edmund Mason, Norwood, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Edmund Mason, Norwood, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Eugene A. Stowell, Billerica, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Alice Stowell Elder, Billerica, Massachusetts.
Alexander Stowell Elder, Billerica, Massachusetts.
Alice Eugenia Elder, Billerica, Massachusetts.
Helen Eloise Elder, Billerica, Massachusetts.
Leon Carl Stowell, 154 Nassau St., New York City.
Elvin Delson Stowell, Orange, Massachusetts.
Carlon Nelson Stowell, Orange, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Carlon Nelson Stowell, Orange, Massachusetts.
Jean H. Stowell, Somerville, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Jean H. Stowell, Somerville, Massachusetts.
Mrs. Lulu Seaver Snow, Whitinsville, Massachusetts.
Charles S. Snow, Whitinsville, Massachusetts.

84 C. Sumner Snow, Jr., Whitinsville, Massachusetts
85 Mrs. Annie Hunter Knowlton, Hingham, Massachusetts.
86 Clarence Hinckley Knowlton, Hingham, Massachusetts.
87 Fannie L. Stowell, Newtonville, Massachusetts.
88 Mrs. Alice L. McManamon, Newtonville, Massachusetts.
89 Grace E. Stowell, Kensington, Conn.
90 Emily M. Sibley, Newtonville, Massachusetts.
91 Mrs. Martha Stowell Watson, East Boston, Massachusetts.
92 Miss Gertrude Pike, Winthrop, Massachusetts.
93 Miss Henrietta S. Pike, Winthrop, Massachusetts.
94 Richard Newton, Dorchester, Massachusetts.
95 Annie E. Newton, Dorchester, Massachusetts.
96 Florence M. Henson, Everett, Massachusetts.
97 Joseph Goodhead, Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts.
98 Mrs. Winifred L. Stowell, Jr., South Weymouth, Massachusetts.
99 Winfred Lincoln Stowell, Jr., South Weymouth, Massachusetts.
100 Meredith Daniels Stowell, South Weymouth, Massachusetts.
101 Anthony R. Price, Brighton, Massachusetts.
102 Mrs. Margaret Homer Shurtleff, Boston, Massachusetts.
103 John Oldham, Loughborough, England.
104 John R. Henson, Everett, Massachusetts.
105 Ernest Weatherby, Montreal, Canada.
106 Mary E. Hough, Hingham, Massachusetts.
107 Louise Gates, Hingham Center, Massachusetts.
108 Helen F. Burr, Hingham, Massachusetts.
109 Helena Anderson, Hingham, Massachusetts.
110 Alton E. Stowell, Haverhill, Massachusetts.

The number preceding name is for identification on the official photograph.

Third Annual Meeting

Stowell Family Association

Incorporated

Held in "Old Ship" Meeting House

Hingham, Mass.

Saturday, September 10, 1927

President Luther Stowell Conger Presiding

* CS71
.S893
1926-27

Third Annual Meeting

Stowell Family Association

Incorporated

Held in "Old Ship" Meeting House

Hingham, Mass.

Saturday, September 10, 1927

President Luther Stowell Conger Presiding

[The members of the Association present assembled for luncheon in the parish house at 1 P. M., and grace was offered by the Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell, as follows:]

Our Father, we thank Thee for all Thy good to us. Help us to remember that our bodies are temples to Thy spirit, and may we eat and drink to Thine honor and glory. Amen.

[During the progress of the luncheon the company was entertained by the singing by Mrs. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell of a number of solos and songs, "Smiles" and "Long, Long Trail" being among the number.

At the conclusion of the luncheon the following took place:]

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. Mr. President of the Stowell Association: I think we are very appreciative of this delightful luncheon that has been prepared for us by the ladies of the Lend-a-Hand Association here, and I should like to move a vote of thanks to these ladies for their cordiality and hospitality.

The PRESIDENT. You have heard the motion. Does it meet with a second?

[The motion is seconded.]

The PRESIDENT. It is moved and seconded that a vote of thanks be extended to the ladies of the Lend-a-Hand Society for the luncheon which they have served us this afternoon.

History

[The motion is put and carried unanimously by a show of hands.]

The PRESIDENT. I understand I made a mistake. I understand there are several ways of signifying how you feel about it. I thought I was going to get a rousing number of ayes here that would take the roof off the place. Instead of that I got a very silent indication. If you are in favor of it, signify it by saying, "Aye".

[The company responded with a chorus of ayes.]

The PRESIDENT. If I can have your attention for about five minutes, we are moving on pretty good schedule time. It is a little better to say here in this room, where we are a little closer together and there is more of a homey atmosphere than over in the church, a few of the things I want to bring to your attention at this time.

We have today with us quite a number of people from a distance. I believe those who are the farthest away came all the way from California, and it seems that last September the niece of the gentleman who is here from California today wrote our secretary that she hoped she would be here this year. I happened to run across that letter I think about ten days or two weeks ago, and I immediately wrote Miss Wilhelmina Stowell of Beverly Hills. I was very much surprised to get a letter from her stating that she would be unable to come, but that her uncle, Nathan Wilson Stowell and wife of Los Angeles were leaving the 5th for Boston, and that her sister, Mrs. Fitch and her husband, Mr. Orlando P. Fitch, were at Claremont, New Hampshire, and would be here at this time. I am going to ask those to stand up at this time, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Wilson Stowell of Los Angeles, and Mr. and Mrs. Fitch. I want you all to know them.

[The persons addressed rise.]

Mr. STOWELL. I think I will have to stand up twice, because my wife was ill this morning, and not able to come.

The PRESIDENT. We are sorry for that, I assure you.

Now, to bring the thing a little closer here, you remember a year ago we had with us Mrs. Morse of Medway, I believe it is, ninety-two years of age. She is with us again today, and I am going to ask her if she will stand at this time.

[The lady addressed rises.]

The PRESIDENT. Now, I wonder who the youngest is here today. Who is the youngest here? Here he is. Stand up, Buddy. [The child addressed rises.] This is John Lewis Mitchell of Lowell, Massachusetts. The great-grandmother of this little fellow was a Stowell. He is five years old.

I am going to go around this table and introduce the members

of our executive committee and some o fthe other members from distant parts of the country. I will start in with Mr. Jean H. Stowell of Somerville and ask him to rise, so that you will know who he is. [The member addressed rises.]

Mr. Henry Miles Stowell of Walpole. [The member addressed rises.]

Mrs. Alexander Stowell of Billerica. [The member addressed rises.]

I have got to stop for a minute and tell you a little bit about the next two people that I am going to introduce you to. We had our minutes taken last year by a reporter. They were typed, and when the copy got to me it was quite extensive, some sixty or seventy typewritten pages. Knowing the content of our treasury, I knew we could not have it printed. Mr. J. W. Stowell of Federalsburg, Maryland, wrote me a letter and offered to print the minutes, and offered to give us 500 copies of them. You are indebted to him for the pamphlet which was sent to you with the announcement of this year's meeting. I take the pleasure of introducing Mr. J. W. Stowell and his wife of Federalsburg, Maryland, at this time. [The members addressed rise.]

The Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell of Montello, Mass., and our treasurer, Mr. Winfred Lincoln Stowell, Jr., of South Weymouth. [The members addressed rise.]

Our good looking secretary, Mr. Thomas Johnston Homer, Jr. [The member addressed rises.]

One of the surprises of the day is Dr. Harlow Shapley, of Harvard Observatory, Cambridge. [The member addressed rises.]

Our speaker of our first year, Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell of Washington, D. C. [The member addressed rises.] And the lady to his left is a guest whose name I do not know.

I announced in the letter that we had a surprise for you in the way of a speaker. You will find that out when we adjourn to the church, but I guess the biggest surprise was to myself today when I was notified by a member of the Family that they had been in New Hampshire this summer and heard that I had gotten married. That was really a surprise, because I didn't know any such thing was about to happen. Now, for the little folks that are here today there has been a committee appointed, and they will take charge of them while the other people are enjoying the talks of the afternoon. So Miss Mildred P. Stowell of Freeport, Maine, has a little program for them. I am going to ask Miss Mildred to stand at this time so the little fellows will know who she is. [The member addressed rises.]

With reference to your dues, some members of the Association last year said to me that while they were here and tried to turn some money in, they found nobody wanted to take it. They didn't see me! Our secretary, Mr. Thomas Homer, and the treasurer, Mr. Wilfred Lincoln Stowell, will certainly be very glad to relieve you of any money you want to entrust to their care, I am quite sure.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. Mr. President, you asked me to make the motion before, as to what I felt, and I make this suggestion without anybody suggesting that I should make it, and that is that these meetings cost a good deal of money for the Association and the dues do not always cover it. We do not like to turn our meetings into dunning people for money. They are just the ones that ought not to have the burden put on them. I shall make a small contribution myself to this meeting, it is a delightful meeting, and I hope all of the others will do so, because I am very much impressed with the balance sheet of this association that the outstanding bills were only $70, and they had a working balance of $108. I think it is a pretty remarkable showing, considering what has been done, and I am going to make a small contribution for the expenses of this meeting. I hope others will turn in what they can to help make this Association a great success.

The PRESIDENT. Just along that line may I give you this information, that our first year we guaranteed 75. We had 120 present. Last year we guaranteed again 75 and had 110 present. This year we guaranteed 85 and we have 61. The difference has to come out of the treasury of the Association to meet the deficit along this line. We have found this out due to the fact of the meeting being held in September. From what I have seen this is not the logical time to hold it. We are having a perfectly wonderful day outside, but it is the opening of the fall schools and work is resuming, and it does seem as if July was the logical time to have our meeting as people are wanting to get away.

I simply did not have the physical strength or the health to get out the work that was necessary. Since the 4th day of July I have written 125 personal letters and had four people working the entire day from seven in the morning to ten at night to get out the minutes, membership statements, and the like of that, and it involves a great deal of work. I just wanted to leave that part of it with you.

Turning to my left I find I have unintentionally neglected to introduce one of the members of the family that I certainly was glad to have the card from stating that she was coming. This time I want to introduce Mrs. Harriet King Headrick of New York City, who is considered one of the leading bond saleswomen of the country and is with the banking firm of Bonbright & Company. Mrs. Headrick. [The member addressed rises.]

Now, I think we will have a solo by Mrs. Stowell and then another sing, and then we will adjourn to the church across for the balance of our meeting.

[A solo was rendered by Mrs. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell.]

The PRESIDENT. I want to make this announcement. We have a little exhibition over in the church of different things I have

collected in the last two years. A great many of them were here last year. Requests have been made for certain of the pictures that are there. If there is not enough of the supply to furnish those who want them, if they will just leave an order with Mr. Kenneth Goding—Kenneth, will you just rise, please? [The member addressed rises.] If you will just leave your order with Mr. Goding, he will see that you get the proper pictures that you want. He has the prices on them, and any of them can be furnished that you want.

Mrs. WOODBURY SWEETSER STOWELL. I think for the closing number we might sing, "Auld Lang Syne".

[Singing of "Auld Lang Syne".]

The PRESIDENT. Mr. Morris has a suggestion he wants to make.

Mr. MORRIS. I understand that this is the closing number. It seems to me as descendants of some of the very earliest settlers that this country knew that it would be quite appropriate if we closed with "America", and I think everybody knows "America." I will make one more suggestion,—[to the President] this is for your private use, if anybody overhears it,—that before we have our songfest next year, if we could get some of those old-fashioned hymn books that most of the people know the tunes and songs in, we would get a good deal more volume to the chorus.

The PRESIDENT. Like "Silver Threads Among the Gold"? All right, may we have one verse of "America", and let us all stand for that, please. Then we are to go across the street in the meeting house.

[Singing of "America".]

[The meeting was called to order in the "Old Ship" Meeting House at 2.50 P. M. by the President.]

The PRESIDENT. We have already had one verse of "America", so let us open with one verse of No. 101, in the Hymnals, "Faith of our Fathers".

[Singing of "Faith of our Fathers".]

[The following prayer was offered by the Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell.]

"Let us pray. Our Heavenly Father, we pray that Thou wilt guide our family footsteps through the coming years as Thou didst by Thy spirit guide Thy servant, Moses, to lead the children of Israel out into the promised land. May the years that stretch before us be as bright for us, with such promises as Thou hast given to those that love Thee. Our Father, if there are any of

our kin in this country or in the world today who are sick or who are unfortunate, we pray that Thou wilt be with them at this hour and give them the peace which passeth all understanding. In His name. Amen."

The PRESIDENT. Our meeting last year dragged a little bit. I am going to try and put through the business just as quickly as we can, and with your cooperation we can do that. I will ask for the reading of the minutes of last year's meeting at this time. Our secretary?

The SECRETARY. (Mr. Homer.) I think that the reading of the minutes of last year's meeting has been done by all of us in the red booklet which was sent out at the time we announced this meeting. In other words, that red booklet is the minutes of last year's meeting, and I think that it is only necessary that it be adopted as such.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. I move that the minutes as incorporated in the red book be accepted.

[The motion is accepted and carried unanimously.]

The PRESIDENT. We will have a report of the executive committee which convened this morning.

The SECRETARY. Just before I mention that, we held an executive committee meeting about the 30th of July, relative to settling on the time of the annual meeting of this year. It was originally planned that the meeting be held in June, and that the meeting be held at Pomfret, Connecticut, but we were not able to bring that about. We finally got our executive committee together on the 30th of July, and settled the big point of today's meeting, and that was the main feature of that particular meeting. Now, this morning we had an executive committee meeting, and the first and principal point proposed was that Mr. Leon Carl Stowell of New York City last year offered to pay for the costumes which were used in the little pageant effect feature which we had in the meeting last year, some of the members coming through the church here in clothes of various periods in the last two centuries. That amounted to quite a bit of money, and in view of that the Committee thought that it would be a courtesy to offer Mr. Leon C. Stowell a two years' membership without further payment.

Another important, and very important point which was brought up was the question of auditing the books of the Association, and that was settled to the effect that the next president to be elected would appoint an outside man or organization, preferably a certified public accountant, to make an audit of our books, and then, if possible, to send out to the membership a printed financial statement.

The Committee also discussed several other points proposed, one of which was the question of organizing a vital statistics committee and to get general and yet concise data regarding the

occupation and various characteristics of the membership at large. That is a thing we hope to get started on. It was first mentioned by Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell three years ago, and it has just simply been brought up again to see if we cannot get started on this feature of activity, and I hope we can, if we can get it moving. I think that constituted the main features of the executive committee meeting this morning.

The PRESIDENT. You have heard this report. What is your pleasure with reference to it? Is there any discussion?

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. I move that it be accepted.

[The motion is seconded.]

The PRESIDENT. It is moved that the report as given by the secretary of the meeting of the executive committee be accepted.

[The motion is carried unanimously.]

The PRESIDENT. At this time we will have a report of the secretary for last year.

The SECRETARY. I do not know as I have very much to say as a report for last year. It has really all been said so far as details, perhaps, are concerned, in the report of the minutes of last year's meeting in the pamphlet.

I have got two or three figures which might be interesting to you in connection with the membership. We are running now into our third year. At the end of the first year we had 224 members. Last year a little over 50 members were in arrears and did not pay up. Since then some of those people have paid up to date. The total number of memberships on the list for last year was 167, as compared with 224 for the first year. Now, that 167 should really be increased a little bit, I am not sure just how much. For this year we already have 100 members paid in. Last year at the time of the annual meeting I rather doubt if we had as many as 100 actually paid in, so if that is the case and we have got 100 paid in now, I think that it looks as though our membership for this succeeding year, 1927-1928, will in all probability exceed the membership we had last year, which was 167. That is, the outlook is quite favorable that we will get back to the original 224. If we do get back to the 224, why, that will be fine, and I think it will be an indication of the fact that from now on we will probably grow in numbers, perhaps not rapidly, but will be gradually always growing in numbers. Of that 100 or so that we already have now there are 20 or 25 brand new members who have never been in the Association before, and if we can get 25 brand new members every year, we are progressing as far as the number of members is concerned. I might mention that we have got four life members.

I think that constitutes what I have to say as far as Secretary's report is concerned.

Mr. HENRY MILES STOWELL. Do I understand that those hundred names are names that have paid in since the report was sent out?

The SECRETARY. Practically so. That is, those hundred names—it is really more than that—are people who have paid for the year 1927-1928; that is, their dues are paid and their membership is good until July 1, 1928, and I do not think that at last year's meeting, which of course was a little bit earlier in the year than this, that we had as many names as that paid in advance.

Rev. WOODBURY SWEETSER STOWELL. Mr. Secretary, what constitutes a life member?

The SECRETARY. A person is made a life member by paying $25 when he so stipulates that they want a life membership. In that case the $25 that he pays is put into a separate fund and the Association, as I understand, cannot use any of the principal of that fund, but may at any time use the income from that fund. Now, up to date, of course we have not got very many life members. We only have four, but, nevertheless, up to date we have not used a single cent of the income from the fund.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. May I ask if that life fund could be used if the Society so decided?

The SECRETARY. I feel that the principal cannot be touched. Can it, Mr. Conger?

The PRESIDENT. I think that is up to the Association.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. If the whole Association wanted to, they could? Otherwise they would have a fund which they had no control over.

The PRESIDENT. The fund is controlled by the Association. They can vote how it is to be used.

If I may say a word in regard to Mr. Homer's report, some of these memberships he mentioned carry over two or three years. I have a lady living in Watertown, one in Detroit, Michigan, and several in the western part of the state which cover periods from two to five years. There are two five-year memberships of, annual membership tickets at one dollar each. There is also $25 given by Mrs. Gardner C. Hill, of Keene, New Hampshire, in memory of her husband, Dr. Gardner C. Hill. The total of that trust fund is $134.32. We have accumulated that much, so you see we are earning something. What is your pleasure as to the report of Mr. Homer?

[On motion, duly made and seconded, it was voted that the report be accepted.]

The PRESIDENT. Now, the report of the Treasurer. He has asked me to make this brief statement. I have an itemized report and it would take too long to read it this afternoon. We will arrange to have it printed and let each one of the Association have a copy of it. Briefly stated, we had on hand the 15th day of August $38.47 in the current fund, and the trust fund was

$134.32 on July 1, 1927. We have accumulated a little interest since that date. Since then the bills for today's meeting so far rendered amount to $70.38. The treasurer has on hand to date $108.47. That was before he landed here today. Mr. Homer has some money. The treasurer has also taken in some funds. So that we have probably around $70 or $80 as a balance. But there are still other bills to come in. For instance, our report of today's meeting, the bill on that, and some other small bills that may be rendered.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. Mr. President, that financial report can be seen by anybody who wishes to see it?

The PRESIDENT. Yes. It will be here on the table and anybody that wish to look at it can peruse it, and just as soon as we possibly can we will have a copy of it printed and a copy sent to each member of the Association. What is your pleasure with this report as I have submitted it briefly?

Dr. SHAPLEY. I move its acceptance.

[The motion was seconded.]

The PRESIDENT. It is moved and seconded that the Treasurer's report as briefly outlined by me be accepted.

[The motion is put and carried unanimously.]

The PRESIDENT. It is so ordered. Now, the reports of regular or special committees. I am going to ask for a report from the Music Committee at this time. Mrs. Stowell?

Mrs. WOODBURY SWEETSER STOWELL. I have a very brief report to make. There were some names given to me to write to to take part in the musical program, but unfortunately I have not received any answers from those people. They do not live very far from here, and I was rather disappointed. So that made Miss Stowell and myself conduct the whole program. But I would be very much pleased to know the members of this Association who are talented in a musical way, if they will give their names to me so that next year we can perhaps make our program a little more varied and a little more interesting all around. That is all I have to say.

The PRESIDENT. What is your pleasure with reference to this report?

Dr. SHAPLEY. I move its acceptance.

[The motion is seconded.]

The PRESIDENT. It is moved and seconded that this report be accepted.

[The motion is put and carried unanimously.]

Mr. GEORGE LORING STOWELL (of Waltham). May I ask a question, Mr. President? Would the lady please give her address

so that anyone can communicate with her? Would that be in order?

The PRESIDENT. That would be in order.

Mrs. WOODBURY SWEETSER STOWELL. My name is Mrs. Woodbury S. Stowell, 15 Orchard Avenue, Brockton, Massachusetts.

The PRESIDENT. The Entertainment Committee was headed by Miss Mildred P. Stowell, and she at the present time is carrying on her part of the program on the outside with the little tots.

The report of the Nominating Committee at this time. Mrs. Ruggles?

Mrs. ELLA F. S. RUGGLES. The Nominating Committee met on Friday evening, August 26th, at Mrs. Ruggles', 60 Randolph Street, Arlington, Massachusetts. The following names were proposed for office for the ensuing year, 1927-1928:

President: Dr. Edmund Channing Stowell of Marlborough, New Hampshire.

Vice President: Thomas Johnston Homer, Jr., 4 Linwood Square, Roxbury, Massachusetts.

Recording Secretary: Mrs. Lottie H. Stebbins MacDougall, Box 190, Laurel Lane, Warren, Rhode Island.

Corresponding Secretary: Luther Stowell Conger, 20A Garden Street, Beacon Hill, Boston, Massachusetts.

Treasurer: Winfred Lincoln Stowell, Jr., 758 Main Street, South Weymouth, Massachusetts.

Executive Committee: Dr. Edmund Channing Stowell, Mrs. Lottie H. Stebbins MacDougall, Winfred Lincoln Stowell, Jr., Leonidas Townsend Kinch Stowell, North Road, Kingston, Rhode Island; Jean H. Stowell, Thomas Johnston Homer, Jr., Luther Stowell Conger, Samuel Stowell Symmes, 7 Sanborn Street, Winchester, Mass.; Mrs. Harriet King Headrick, care Bonbright & Co., 25 Nassau Street, New York City, New York.

Respectfully submitted,

ELLA FRANCES STOWELL RUGGLES,
Chairman;
and
MRS. ELLA LOUISE STOWELL,
MRS. H. A. DUMONT,
JEAN H. STOWELL.

The PRESIDENT. You have heard the report of the Nominating Committee. What is your wish with reference to it? The ballots I believe, I might say by way of digression, were sent out to each member, and the Secretary has received marked ballots from the membership to the number of about 50.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. I move that the nominations be closed.

[The motion is seconded.]

The PRESIDENT. It has been moved and seconded that the nominations be closed. Are you ready for the question? The list as read by Mrs. Ruggles is before you. What is your pleasure with reference to it?

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. I move that the Secretary be instructed to cast a ballot for them.

The PRESIDENT. Does that meet with a second?

[The motion is seconded.]

The PRESIDENT. It is moved and seconded that the Secretary be instructed to cast a ballot for the list as read.

[The motion is put and carried unanimously.]

The PRESIDENT. It is so ordered.

The time has come for me to step to one side, and due to the fact that the incoming president is not here the vice president would assume the chair. Before doing that I would like to bring some things before you in order to speed up our time as much as possible. I just want to read off these few things that we have commented on this morning.

At the Executive Committee meeting we discussed plans for next year's meeting, whether to have it at Pomfert, Connecticut, or to attend a clambake in Rhode Island from which place we had an invitation. That would probably come later on. These things I just give to you as items that are under discussion by the Executive Committee and will be taken up and threshed out and passed on to you later by mail. We may work up a pageant for next year similar to what we had last year and let everybody come dressed in some Colonial costume.

The thing I want to stress more than anything else, before I get out of office as president, is this: The reason why we have kept down the expense is due to the fact that we have not had funds in the treasury to carry on the way we should. I have made the plea here now for the third time. I do not know how I can stress it, I do not know how I can put it any more plainly than I have endeavored to put it in the past. I wish you could step into my home at the present time and see the great mass of data pertaining to the family that I am collecting. I wish you could see the letters that I am receiving I would say almost daily from members of the family throughout the country. Since the 4th day of July the number has gone up. Since the 4th day of July I have written 125 or more letters to members of the family throughout the country, a great many of which have involved much research work, as they had written asking for information. At the present time I expect I have at home between two and three hundred letters that should be answered, that have been on file, some of them addressed to our former treasurer, some of

them addressed to our secretary, some of them addressed to me, covering a period of three years. One man wrote three times, and he got rather indignant when he wrote his last letter and wanted to know if we kept any information back from him because his ancestors had been in jail or some other place. The letter finally got to me. None of them were addressed to me at all, and they finally reached me, and after two or three months when I found time and when I saw the sense of the letters, that he was rather indignant, I sat down and wrote the man a rather detailed letter as to why he had not received an answer, and he wrote back a very apologetic letter and said his sense of justice had certainly received a very severe jar on receipt of my letter, and he hoped to be with us this year.

Now, I wish we could only get this accumulation out of the way. That is why I said this morning that we had gone back to Puritanical days and had done without this, that and the other thing in order to keep our expense down and allow me to have the services of a stenographer from time to time in order to get this stuff out right.

Pick out pivotal states like Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Michigan, and appoint directors, and give them a list of the names and addresses and let them do this pioneer work in rounding up members in these states, because they are coming from everywhere. I have had queries from Georgia, Illinois, Oregon, people who have dropped in on me, some of them new members who wanted information and wanted to know where we would have our meeting.

I had hoped that this afternoon you folks would see fit to take some action and let me have the assistance that I so sorely need. I cannot keep up the pace that I have been going the last three years. It is a physical impossibility and I have just simply got to renig and back down, that is all there is to it. There were 250 odd letters sent out with six enclosures in them, and practically 500 statements that had to be rendered this year, and that all takes time. I had four different files of data to go through in making up the statement and sending it out in order to see that everything was just right. I am surprised to see that there have not been more mistakes made than there have been. That is the only thing I want. I want help of that character. That is the only thing I ask from the members of the Association, because you folks have been sleeping probably while I have been up burning not only the midnight oil but the morning oil as well.

Later on we will hear about some of these things that I have noted down here. There is to be a dinner and social time in the midyear in Boston and New York City. We had a wonderful time last December in Washington about which you will hear later. We have members, for instance, that are interested in publicity work or interested in the family crest. I had a letter from Mrs. Grace Wing of Portland, whose husband was a special

representative of the Boston Herald, and she is quite a noted writer, a Maine woman, very prominent in club work there, and in the report that was rendered—she got a copy of it—she noted she was down on the publicity end of it and her son on the heraldry end of it, and they had never been notified. The reason was that the reports were sent out late, and I had not had time to write them. She is perfectly willing to help, and so is her son, if they could only be notified of those things in time.

The executive committee will take up the matter of the committees for next year, and the nominating committee. It was thought best to have the by-laws printed so each one of the members could hear about them. A transcription of today's minutes we hope can be printed and a copy sent to each member.

I have had calls from the following people, as I stated, four of them this summer:

Mrs. William C. Rogers of Chicago, Ill., whose son lives in Washington, D. C., and was the one member in Washington last year who could not be with us because of absence from the city.

Charles Jacob Stowell, who is a professor in McKendree College in Lebanon, Illinois.

Mrs. Anna Bassett, whose husband is head of the Health Department in Savannah, Georgia, and her sister, Mrs. Sisson, whose husband is professor in a college in Portland, Oregon, and they are on their way east at the present time.

The letters come in to me, and I get a different aspect from what the rest of the family get in regard to this thing, and I wish you could have just a slight peep into it. I think Mr. Jean H. Stowell saw some of the mass that has accumulated and the way it has been arranged. It has all been chronologically arranged into files where it can be gotten at. The membership cards are alphabetically arranged. My name is arranged in the C's, and all the Stowells datacally and chronologically arranged in such shape that you can find anybody's membership if you are given the name of the town immediately.

I have two or three letters that I want to read certain portions of to you and with these I want to close. Dr. Charles Henry Stowell of Lowell is still living. His brother, Dr. Thomas Blanchard Stowell of Los Angeles, passed away on the first of August. I have a very splendid letter from his wife, and I have put up clippings on the wall there telling of his passing and the tributes that have been paid to him. It seems there was a very unusual bond of sympathy between him and his brother in Los Angeles. I have this letter from him that is addressed to the Association. He sent me his card first, and the letter followed. The card is dated September 1st, and says:

> "I cannot possibly be present at the meeting of the STOWELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION, Incorporated, but I will send the following:—Blessed memories of frequent visits to this Charming Home of my ancestors."

And the letter is as follows:

"Dear Mr. President:

Sorry I am that it is impossible for me to meet with the largest, the finest, and the grandest of all Family Associations.

But distance availeth nothing when we know where our thoughts are and where every beat of the heart brings hallowed memories.

History informs us that once a Jew and an Irishman were arguing the age-old question which race was the greater. The Jew held that his race was the superior because he could trace his family history afar and away into the almost forgotten past. "Why," said he, "just think of it, I can trace my family back to the time when they were in Noah's Ark." "That's nothin'," said Pat, "my family didn't swim around in any borrowed boat. No Noah's Ark for them! They had an ark all their own!" The Stowell Family don't need nobody's ark! When they want a gathering they simply ring the bell in the Hingham Tower, and from all parts of the globe the happiest people come. They come, and still year after year they will continue to come.

The foundation of the Stowell Ark was laid by William the Conqueror, in 1066, when he gave Adam Stowell the Manor of Cothelstone, situated in Quantock, Somerset County. The mansion is beautiful and extensive. The church, adjoining, is handsome and artistic. There were eleven farm-houses and fifty-four cottages, and over 3000 acres of land.

But the magnificent monument of all is represented here today.

Our Association, with its wonderful background, **is a great Pride Producer.** It means something to be a Stowell, today; and we all now pledge ourselves that the Stowells of tomorrow will ever prove true to the traditions of our noble Family.

Faithfully yours,

CHARLES H. STOWELL."

Knowing Dr. Stowell as I do, I wonder if I am out of line in suggesting that as October 27th of this year is his seventy-seventh birthday, if those of you here who wish to make a note of it will drop him a line on that day, or, if you see fit to, do it now, because I am frank to say between now and then he might be called home, his health is so critical, I think it would make him feel very grateful. It might not be amiss if somebody saw fit to see that a word was sent as coming from this body today, as we did once before.

This letter from the widow of Dr. Thomas Blanchard Stowell may be of interest to you. These will all be incorporated in the minutes so that you will all have copies of them. She says:

"I was pleased to receive the announcement of the next meeting of the Stowell Family, and the book of minutes of last year's meeting, so beautifully printed and so much of interest in it.

I was moved to tears by your sympathetic personal letter. I wish you might have known my beloved husband, Thomas Blanchard Stowell; he was the soul of honor, a distinguished scholar, gentle and kindly withal, and greatly beloved by his students and multitude of friends. He bore his long invalidism as only a Christian gentleman could, patient and uncomplaining to the end."

It seems he had creeping paralysis and I think for three or four years was unable to talk at all.

> "The many letters and expressions of regard have been a great comfort to me, and I am upheld by the love of our many friends and the God-given strength of our Heavenly Father. I am grateful that I could minister to him to the last, and am praying for strength to still uphold the honor of his loved name. I am sending you some newspaper clippings for your files. It seems strange that you should have heard the news of his death from Maryland, but of course Mr. Stowell being in the newspaper business"—

and that refers to Mr. J. W. Stowell, who is with us today,

> "explains it. Many of our friends wrote me of seeing the notice in various newspapers.
>
> Dr. Charles H. Stowell is still living but in a very precarious state of health from heart trouble. He writes very little which I presume is the reason you have not heard from him. His wife also is in very poor health. Dr. Charles is in very great grief over the death of his brother Thomas,—there was more than a common tie between them.
>
> I presume you know of the lamented death of two of your valued members within the year—Mrs. Charles H. McKevett and Miss Maria F. Stowell, both of Los Angeles."

Miss Maria F. Stowell was the lady who sent us by air mail a letter last year, and wanted to have a hand in the purchase of the Stowell home here in Hingham, and she passed away, I think it was on the 29th day of December last year.

> "I am trying to get further news of their life and will forward it to you. They were both women of lovely Christian character, hospitable and generous. The last time I talked with Miss Maria soon after her sister's death, she was trying to get additional information about the Stowell coat-of-arms. I am very much interested in that subject because I want a sketch in colors to hang in the Stowell Hall of the University, mentioned in the circular I am sending."

Her husband was Dean of the Department of Education of the University of Southern California up to the time of his retirement.

> "I am sending to the Treasurer my last year's dues, and $5.00 for sustaining membership. I do not promise this for every year.
>
> With thanks for your kind letter,
>
> Sincerely yours,
>
> MARY BLAKESLEE STOWELL."

We have one member of our family, whose brother is here today, across the water this summer studying in Paris. I refer to Mr. Stowell Goding of Canton, Massachusetts, and I have this letter from him to the members of the Stowell Family Association:

> "To the members of the Stowell Family Association:
>
> I regret very keenly that I am unable to be with you all for

this annual meeting. I have very pleasant memories of the meeting last summer at Hingham.

I wish that every one of you would make the trip over here to the wonderful city of Paris and the beautiful country of France. Probably you have all heard something of the 'cold receptions to Americans in Paris.' Nothing could be farther from the truth. I once had occasion to ask a Frenchman the location of a certain street. Immediately he hailed a bus- accompanied me to my destination, shook hands and went back to his business. That is but one example from many. The French are justly proud of their cordial reception to foreigners.

I would like to congratulate you all and particularly your President on the remarkably fine work done by the Stowell Family Association and the progress it has made since its inauguration.

Most cordially yours,
STOWELL C. GODING."

I have commented across the street, somewhat, on the guests we have from California, and if I won't burden you too much—this letter will all be incorporated in the minutes of the meeting—I do want to quote some of the letter from Mr. Stowell's niece in Beverly Hills, California, in regard to her uncle. I do not see Mr. Stowell in the audience. I think probably he and his niece and her husband have gone out to look the town over while they are here. She says:

"My Uncle is nearly 76 years old, coming out here in 1874, and has done much in line of building in this City, the past year erecting a very fine theatre building, leased by Belasco for Musical Comedy exclusively. Seats 1500. It is Mayan architecture, and the first of its kind in the world. It is quite elaborate, with Indian designs and characters carved into the massive stone as well as in the tile work in the lobby etc. He will have pictures of it with him, which we think is very unique and artistic and worthy of his work, as he still remains very active in business for a man of his years.

My Uncle is State Genealogist of the Sons of Revolution here and has been for several years. He also aided Wm. Henry Harrison Stowell in getting up his book as did my own father, now deceased. It is possible he could aid you at some future time in establishing a western branch of the Stowell family here in the west. While he is not an orator or speaker, think he would give a short talk on Los Angeles or California if he was called upon to do so"—

I may have scared him away when I said I was going to call on him this afternoon,

"extemporaneously or otherwise, as he is very interesting and has a wonderful knowledge—one of the Judges here claims him to be one of the best read men in Los Angeles."

The next two paragraphs have to deal somewhat with the work that he has done, and you will see the bigness of the man.

"If you will look at Wm. Henry Harrison Stowell's genealogy, under my Uncle's name, you will find therein some description of some of his lifework up to date that book was published, among which is a condensed item of his work in financing the

project of getting water to the Imperial Valley desert when the Government refused its aid, feeling then it was a useless unwarranted idea, but my Uncle had faith that the desert land could be reclaimed and irrigated which would bring forth wonderful agricultural products, and has lived to see the fine results of that work. Ask him about it and he can tell you more in ten minutes than I could in half a day. Possibly that would be a good subject if you wished him to give a short talk at the 'Meeting'. 'Imperial Valley and its Development and Reclamation from Desert Land', which I am sure would be very interesting to all present.

His business used to be the development of water in the mountains and bringing it to various towns and cities of California, and he was considered the 'Water King' in this section, owing to his familiarity and knowledge of that subject, which is so essential to the development of this wonderful country.

I fully realize the extra work you have in getting up the organization of our Association, which is added to your daily work, and since I am a daily worker too, being Secretary, Treasurer and Manager of the above Corporation, the Pacific Tile & Marble Company, Inc., I know what it all means, as I myself often wish our day was about 50 hours long, instead of 24, so I could accomplish therein all I would like to.

Thanking you for writing me, which enabled me to pass the word to my sister and Uncle, so they can be present, and trusting I will receive information in due time of next year's meeting, as I shall hope to attend then, when my Uncle can remain here and look after the business while I am gone, and thanking you for the pamphlet on last year's meeting which I have enjoyed reading so much, I remain, with all good wishes for a very pleasant Meeting this year.

Sincerely,
MISS WILHELMINA E. STOWELL.

P. S. When my Uncle erected the Stowell Hotel in this City about 15 years ago, he had the Stowell Coat of Arms woven into the bedspreads along with the name Stowell Hotel, and also has the Coat of Arms in Dutch blue color on porcelain candlesticks and match containers in each room of the hotel—about 275 rooms. He has more in his Coat of Arms than you have on your pamphlet, as he has a bird and some words Je Vie etc. Ask him about it. My sister has also crocheted this Coat of Arms into an artistic piece of work which is used on the backs of chairs (upholstered chairs) for each member of our family. Possibly some of the other Stowell women present at the meeting would be interested in that and can ask her about it."

I understand Mrs. Stowell was detained in Boston on account of not feeling well, so you ladies will not have the pleasure of asking her about that needlework.

We have been called upon, as I mentioned previously, to be advised of the passing of several members of the Family, Dr. Thomas Blanchard Stowell of Los Angeles and Miss Maria F. Stowell of Los Angeles. I wonder if we could bow our heads at this time in a silent prayer, and then I will ask the Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell to offer a short prayer.

[The meeting paused in silence in memory of the departed members.]

Prayer by the Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell.

Our Father, as we recall the names of our departed Family members, may we remember that truth which is so precious to us, that they have not gone from us forever. Some day we shall meet in the land that is beyond our human sight. Help us to remember, dear Father, that Thou hast made us for Thyself, and may our hearts not rest until they find a home in Thee. May Thy richest blessing rest upon the immediate families of those who have been bereaved, and Thy rich benediction remain with them and with us through the coming years. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. I wonder if at this time we might have a motion put before us that a note of sympathy be sent to Mrs. Thomas Blanchard Stowell of Los Angeles.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. I so move.

[The motion is seconded.]

The PRESIDENT. It is moved and seconded that the Secretary be instructed to convey the sympathy of the Association to Mrs. Thomas Blanchard Stowell of Los Angeles.

[The motion is put and carried unanimously.]

The PRESIDENT: It is so ordered.

We have five speakers here this afternoon, all of whom will give just short talks. I am not trying to give the party away that I am about to introduce to you, but I have tried for three years to get him, and you know if you keep persistently after a thing you finally round it up, and I am very happy this afternoon to be able to present to you Dr. Harlow Shapley, head of Harvard Observatory of Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, who is a Missouri boy, and his mother was a Stowell. Dr. Shapley?

Remarks by Dr. Harlow Shapley.

Mr. President: Last year I went to Europe for six months in order to avoid this ordeal, and the year before I went to the West to avoid it, but this time I was caught napping, and I fear you will be before I get through. I believe I should set a model for these other four in the matter of brevity.

I will speak, being a research scientist, of two researches into the origin of the Stowells. The first I was the recipient of when I was seven years old. My father cornered two twin boys, who, open-mouthed and open-eyed, listened to the statement of the origin of the Stowell family he had married into. He said, "You see, back in the old country their names were O'Flaherty, and there they prospered for many years until the potatoes failed." He didn't have any twinkle in his eye, so I think this must be the true origin of the Stowells, Mr. President. When the potatoes

failed some of them boarded a tramp steamer at Cork and started for this country. I believe because of their customary and reputed thrift, or the absence of funds, they did not pay any fare, but concealed themselves in the coal bunkers, and only just as they were landing on this side were they discovered. This so much pleased, my father said, the captain of the ship, that he did not punish them, but gave them the name, "Stow-well". That, he said, was the origin of the family.

With that early step in the search of genealogy I have taken it up in later years, leaving a few gaps for you more active members of the Association to fill in, that is, the connection between this state and the other state, and between that family and other families all the way back to the ark. I start further back than that, being professionally a student of inorganic evolution and the origin of stellar systems, and I think I should remind you people, the Stowell Family, or O'Flahertys, or whatever you are, that your origin can be traced by the astronomer further than you ever suspected.

I begin at the other end. You can take it from me, and I think it is fairly true, that some ten thousand million years ago the Stowell family was not very well organized. In fact they were at that time inhabitants of the sun. The astronomer can tell you —believe it or not, as they say—that all of the material in the universe is condensed from primordial gas and dust and gases, and as we come down through the ages these disorganized substances have come together into stars. I study stellar evolution and follow those steps with considerable surety because they are subject to mathematical analysis. We study these gases—and remember I am talking about the origin of the Stowells, we were completely gaseous in nature these few thousands of millions of years back. Back of the Stowells were the earlier citizens of this globe. But still we tracers into things of that kind go still further back to our ancestors whose clothes we do not know about. But we all know, these profound students of evolution, that about one thousand million years ago the ancestors of the Stowells were of low organic form. I do not think there is any doubt of that. But back of that low organic form on the crust of the earth was the crust itself from which we sprang, from dust. You see we all came from that.

The crust of the earth had its origin in the sun several thousand million years ago. A star tore off part of the gaseous hot atmosphere of the sun, and those hot gases went in long orbits around the sun,—the origin of the earth and the Stowell family. On those planets, after they condensed into solid and liquid matter, we had the beginning of organic life, and that went through various stages, and higher and higher until we have the primates and organized society, and finally the Stowell Family Association, the crowning glory of this cosmic evolution. So you see my study into this problem of genealogy is away back in

there, and I am at the present time at the Harvard Observatory with thirty or forty associates studying the problems of the development out of chaos of this association and of the various intermediate steps through the stars, through the earth, and on.

And finally I leave this with you. Remember that we have one thing in common with the mighty stars which have existed so long, and will continue to exist after the Stowells no longer are. We are all made of the same stuff, and we are all part of the same gravitational laws, we are all part of the same evolutionary drift. And I mean that seriously. One of the crowning problems and interests in an association of this kind is to learn that we are a part of a growth that goes through the universe and involves all the organic world and all the inorganic world, the stars themselves. We are part of the general cosmic scheme.

I will continue my part of the research into the Stowell genealogy, and I will leave to the more active members the more immediate problems connected with Hingham and with New England.

Thank you, Mr. President.

[Applause.]

The PRESIDENT. We had a very wonderful meeting at Washington last year. I will ask Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell, who was our speaker a few years ago, to give us a few of the high lights at that particular time. Dr. Stowell?

Remarks by Dr. Ellery Cory Stowell.

The principal high light was our former president who blew into Washington with his breezy and charming manner and called us together. We met there in the Roosevelt Hotel. There was Mrs. Jason Waterman, Mr. and Mrs. Carl D. Ruth, Miss Elisabeth Stowell, and several members of my own family and my brother's family. His widow and his two children were there, and we had a delightful little gathering around the dinner table. We talked things over before and talked things over afterward. Representative Gibson, who is one of the finest men in Congress, tried to be present, but he was so busy he couldn't get there to the meeting. His mother was also a Stowell, if I am not mistaken, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Yes.

Dr. STOWELL. And there was a feeling that it was worth while for us to organize the members in a little district association to cooperate with the Stowell Association, and Mrs. Waterman was asked to undertake that. She has been very much interested, and I think we shall have an important group there to cooperate with this Association here.

It was rather a difficult thing in Washington itself.

Washington is like no other place in the country. The people do not stay put. They come and go, and it is a very hard thing to keep any association there. I am one of the oldest residents, and I have been there I think eight years. But Mrs. Waterman has been there a good deal longer. She has been there some thirty or forty years. So we have a good prospect there of having a vigorous association.

The PRESIDENT. It was really a pleasure to go to Washington and sit down to the table at the Roosevelt Hotel. It was the first time I have been able to sit quietly back and see somebody else do the work. We had a charming time,—a great big, round table, and twelve people gathered around it.

One of the members told me that he felt quite sure if I were to call upon the next speaker we would have some interesting news from her. I am going to call upon Mrs. J. W. Stowell of Federalsburg, Maryland, to ask if she will say a few words to us at this time. Mrs. Stowell is superintendent, if I am advised rightly, of the country school work near Baltimore. I believe that is it. If I am incorrect, I wish you would put us right on it. Mrs. Stowell?

Remarks by Mrs. J. W. Stowell.

Mr. President: I am surprised. I did not know that I was going to be called on to make a speech here today. I am more or less of an outsider and certainly have not prepared a speech. You have been misinformed. I am not superintendent of schools anywhere, certainly not outside of Baltimore, or just outside of Baltimore. Perhaps it would not be interesting to you to know, but as the subject has been brought up I will say I do happen to be president of the School Board of Caroline County on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

I hardly know what would be of interest to you to say. Dr. Stowell was telling of the interesting times they were planning in Washington for the Stowell Association, and we I am sure have been largely out of it. We are in Maryland, we are not in Washington. I do not know of any other Stowell near us. We are hardly large enough for an association. Now, if this is a hint—

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. We hope you will join us.

Mrs. STOWELL. We have been very much interested in this Association since we heard about it. I think we heard about it in the beginning. I wish we had a little more material for you in our immediate neighborhood, but we have just our one little family. Mr. Stowell's father and mother have died within the last few years, so there is no one there now except Mr. Stowell and his sisters.

The PRESIDENT. Just to show you the ramifications of a thing of this kind that Mrs. Stowell brings up, it has been the idea that where there was a state where there were only two or

three, that there be a combination of three or four states and the members all join in some central place.

I had a word from Miss Angela Elisabeth Stowell of Washington, who was present last year at the meeting of December 6th, when we had our little social time. She had a letter from Mr. J. W. Stowell's sister, who happens to be living in Washington, and Miss Elisabeth Stowell has always been a very enthusiastic booster for the Association. It just shows the missionary work that is going on quietly throughout the country along those lines. Miss Elisabeth is trying to interest Miss Stowell in the Association. I think in time we will have her enrolled as a member. You can never tell, when you step out of here and get in touch with somebody else, what the results might be. You might start what would be an endless chain before the year was over.

Another one of our enthusiastic boosters has been Mrs. Harriet King Headrick of New York City. I have asked Mrs. Headrick to say a few words to us at this time.

Remarks of Mrs. Harriet King Headrick.

I certainly did not know that I was going to be called upon. If I had, I should not have come. I have had a perfectly lovely time and enjoyed every minute of it.

Every time I meet Mr. Conger, which is very often, I am sorry to have him always talk about the enormous amount of work which he has to do, and I can see that it is a great strain, and I myself feel that such work as the clerical work should be paid for. It should be put down as an item, and that is all there is to it, pay for it. Put it down as the expense of the organization. We are not very large or very rich, but we certainly ought to be able to pay for that work. I think it wrong that he should have so much work to do. I hope he will not finish it, but will just put it on to the new president. Perhaps the new president will get it done and paid for, as he ought to.

The PRESIDENT. In line with the letter that I received from Miss Wilhelmina Stowell of Los Angeles I thought we would like to have a word from Mr. Nathan Wilson Stowell, if he is in the audience. I don't seem to see his face, and I think he must be out around the grounds somewhere.

Mrs. J. W. STOWELL. Mr. President, I heard him say he wanted to see some of the grounds, and he asked somebody to go with him.

The PRESIDENT. Mr. Snow, would you step outside. I see somebody there with a cap on now. I don't know whether it is he or not.

Mrs. THOMAS JOHNSTON HOMER. Mr. President, don't you think we might raise our annual subscription? One dollar is so small, and it would seem as if everyone would be willing to give at least $2. I don't know as that would do very much good, but it would be better than $1, anyway.

The PRESIDENT. Mrs. Homer, I am very glad you brought that up. Can we have a little discussion along that line? One dollar does not seem to be very much, but you just double it and we could have double the money coming in that we have had from the dollar subscriptions and the problem of stenographic help would be absolutely solved.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. Mr. President, it just occurs to me at the moment you are speaking—the thought has not been in my mind before—but I notice some of these associations that I belong to are met with the problem of a deficit and they ask for additional subscriptions besides the membership. I think it is rather too bad to increase the membership to over a dollar because some might not come in. But if you should send around notices putting the first amount $2, and then put a little star up to that amount and say that this includes a dollar subscription, and those who do not care to make the dollar subscription can simply send in their annual membership fee, underneath, that might be a way of meeting that and keeping the members in.

The PRESIDENT. I think that has been covered to a certain extent. I have gone a little further than that, not trying to be hoggish at all, but on the statements that have gone out I have put down in the bottom a note asking if they could see their way clear to contribute.

Dr. STOWELL. They will make out the check for the first thing they see without looking down below, and it was suggested by a very keen observer of the International Law Society, and it worked.

Rev. WOODBURY SWEETSER STOWELL. I think that as we are especially interested in getting new members, those who are not very familiar with our meetings here at Hingham, that it would not be well to make it a compulsory membership fee of $2, so many in fact do not come, but to have the regular membership fee one dollar, and some such arrangement as Dr. Stowell has suggested for the additional dollar. We could have a two dollar membership as well as a five dollar membership. Five dollars is quite a jump from one dollar, and a good many might pay two.

Mr. HENRY MILES STOWELL (of Walpole). Mr. President, I would be very much opposed to having the membership fee over $1. I think it is all right to have a life membership of $25, but I believe you can get twice as many members with a $1 fee, and that is what we want. Every married man has to pay $2, and every unmarried man ought to pay $2, but I think $1 is enough, especially for we poor married men.

Mrs. THOMAS JOHNSTON HOMER. These people asking these questions and your answering them involves a good deal of work on your part. It seems to me if they ask questions that involve a good deal of work, they ought to become members.

The PRESIDENT. Here is some correspondence where a lady

writes in that will show you. There is my reply to it. There comes along her second letter. There is another letter going into detail with regard to it, and along comes another letter. Here goes back another letter to her in detail. I had answered her questions in the first letter primarily, but she wanted still further information. I go to work and send an announcement of today's meeting to her, not expecting that she would come because she is away out in Illinois, and I get a letter back. We have solicited and sent her application cards for membership and she says, "We will be unable to attend the meeting of the Stowell Family Association this year, but hope to be able to in the near future." It was research work they wanted me to do for them. If they had the family genealogy, they would have the whole thing solved then and there. I have solicited their membership and I have not gotten it yet. I have done everything I possibly could. There is the thing that involves time. If you should take that thing to a stenographer and get it done, there is three or four dollars worth of stenographic work.

Rev. WOODBURY SWEETSER STOWELL. How much do you think the stenographic work would run into?

The PRESIDENT. I think it could be handled for a hundred or a hundred and twenty-five dollars. That means to get all caught up, because that accumulation comes about from the sending out of 3750 letters the first year, which I sent out myself, and I worked night and day. I just want to tell you this, folks, that if you were to go into the market and get the services of a stenographer for the work that I have done in the past three years it would cost this Association well on to twelve or fifteen hundred dollars. I expect I have sent out personally some fifteen hundred personal letters that I have composed myself on the typewriter, in addition to the 3750, and the drafting of all the forms, the letterheads, the membership cards, the luncheon tickets and the Family crests, and everything that has been done of that character. Cast that to one side. I am just simply stressing the stenographic end of it, because it has been a tremendous amount of work. And you take the work we had in our booklet that Mr. J. W. Stowell of Federalsburg got out for us. If we had gone into the market and had that work done, I can't say how much it would have cost us, but it would have cost several hundred dollars.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. Mr. President, wouldn't it be possible to send out a special appeal to those who live in your neighborhood, where you can get at them, to help you in your work? I think if you found some people in Boston who had a little spare time, they might be paid for it. They might be members of our Family who would be interested in developing this Association and take off from you some of the burden. I should like to support what you say. I should be willing to make a small contribution toward it. I hope we will not depart from

the good business principles that we have had and incur any expense that is not covered by money in the treasury. That I should be very much opposed to. But I should think if we did those two things, see what funds there were in the treasury for stenographic assistance to help you, and send out an appeal to the people in your neighborhood who would take over some of these letters, and perhaps find two or three people who had some time, members of the Family, receiving perhaps a small remuneration, that would be interested and stay with it, and build up this correspondence, and take the less important correspondence off your shoulders, it would be of considerable help to you.

Mr. HENRY MILES STOWELL. Mr. President, in reply to Dr. Stowell, knowing the people of New England the way I do, and knowing they have to scratch about all the time to get a living, and if they have a little spare time they want to go to the movies, I do not believe you would find anybody in the Stowell family who would help you out to any extent, and it seems to me it would be a good idea, and I would like to make the motion that the secretary be authorized to employ help as he thought was necessary, with the approval of the president and vice-president of this Association.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. I second that motion.

The PRESIDENT. I am in an embarrassing position here. I am presiding and the vice-president is supposed to be presiding.

The SECRETARY. I would like to say something on this question myself. The proposition sounds very good the way Mr. Stowell has put it. The thing I am thinking of is how actually it can be executed, if we pass such a motion. For instance, when it comes to expense, just as Dr. Stowell of Washington says,—and it was mentioned back further in the meeting today,—if we are going to send out a financial report, that is something that is done for the Association as a whole. It is a report that will go into the hands of every member. We may have money enough to do that, but that is only one example of the sort of thing which we would like to do for the Association. The moneys that have been spent by the Association have practically been spent wholly for the Association.

This proposition of getting a stenographer involves the use of money, but it is the use of money for individuals. That is what it really comes down to. For instance, this person Mr. Conger spoke of that he had had correspondence with, he said there was three or four dollars worth of correspondence there. We pay our dollars, and the dollars are spent on one person. Up to now, the dollars have been spent on ourselves either directly or indirectly.

The whole point that I am getting at is this, that at the present time we have been able to get along financially and serve the membership in one way or another, and whether it has been well or not with us that is what has been done, serving the member-

ship. Getting a stenographer brings back the individual idea, and I do not just know where the money is going to come from. Maybe the thing could be financed, but at the present time we are financing ourselves for ourselves, and effectively. If we take on an additional burden for expense of that sort, I do not know where the finances are coming from. Perhaps somebody else has some ideas on the matter. That is, we can go ahead and authorize a stenographer, and where are we going to get the money to pay him? If we pay for the stenographer out of the money which we now have in the treasury, because we now have some money which would be available for that purpose, we would have to cut down on such a thing, for example, as sending out that financial notice. It might not be that very thing, but it would be something along that line. We would have to cut down on something that was going to the membership at large.

Mr. HENRY MILES STOWELL. Mr. President, I think the Secretary by being economical in his posting and sending out special notices can probably save some money. I made that motion as Mr. Conger is going to be secretary next year, and he has got to have some help to do this work, and I also added that the President and Vice-President should approve of the engaging of those services, and I realize that they would not approve of anything that there was not any money to pay for. There will be some money spent that there will not be any return for, but a good deal of it that is spent will bring in new membership, and we will get more money by doing this work.

The SECRETARY. That is the point I wanted to bring out.

The PRESIDENT. May I say this: The comment has been made here this afternoon that there have been a hundred members that have paid in. We have approximately, with all outstanding bills paid, something like $100 probably. There are, I would say, 80 to 90 members yet to be heard from to be renewed, which will bring in additional revenue. As I have outlined to you before, I purposely cut down every single thing that I possibly could in every way this year. We did not have the frills and the luxuries and all the other things that go with a meeting of this kind, the candy, and the smokes for the men, and the punch and the floral decorations and the outside music and the pealing of the bells. The pealing of the bells last year was twenty odd dollars. Our music bill was $12 and expenses. Our flowers were something. I did it purposely in order to get the money into the treasury that the stenographic services could be provided for. And it is just as Mr. Henry Miles Stowell says, that by getting letters answered it is going to bring in returns in the way of new members and spreading Stowellism through the country. In order to get results you have got to spend money. That is salesmanship, and if it is the wish of the Association that we carry on and grow and expand, and do some of these things that you people are vitally interested in—one group here is in-

terested in something, one in another phase of life in general—this thing has got to be handled in some such way. I would like to have the discussion further carried on. I am going to call on Mr. Stowell from Pawtucket. What do you think about this? I am going to get very personal right now, because I want a definite statement out of the rank and file here. Mr. Stowell?

Mr. HERBERT JACKMAN STOWELL (of Pawtucket). Mr. President, I think that the members of the family that write in for information and are not members of the Association ought to have it made clear to them that it entails considerable expense and time, and that they should pay a compensation for it, provided they are not members. Those services that you are rendering to members may possible be given to outsiders that are just trying to secure the information and material of one kind and another for their own special purposes, and with other objects in view. It seems to me it is only right that they should pay something for it, and if you do something of that nature that it might be suggested to them that it does involve some expense, that you are willing to render them the service, but you feel they ought to make a contribution if they do not care to joint the Association.

The PRESIDENT. I put that up to this Mrs. Seth Stowell very plainly in two or three letters, telling her that it took up some of my time, that I was not a wealthy man, and the thing had to be handled along that line. Mr. Stowell, what do you think about it? How does the thing appeal to you from your angle down in Maryland?

Mr. J. W. STOWELL (of Federalsburg, Maryland). I think you should have some assistance.

The PRESIDENT. I think you have demonstrated that you are willing to give that assistance. Mr. Stowell of Freeport, what do you think about it?

Mr. JOHN STOWELL (of Freeport, Maine). I think you should have some assistance.

[Calls for the question.]

Mr. GEORGE LORING STOWELL (of Waltham). Mr. President, could I say a word? Mr. President and Cousins, as you have bade us call you this afternoon, it seems to me in order to bring this thing to a head, that we need money, and we cannot get very far without money. Would it be agreeable to this body if we offered a little collection here, and the Secretary notify the members of what we have done here? Would that have any effect on them? We have got to have money. Money made the mare go in the olden times. It makes the auto go today.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. I don't think we ought to take a collection because it will have a fatal effect in succeeding years. I have offered to make a small contribution, but I think if we put it in that way it would not be a good thing, and I think if we are

to pass votes, they should be for money that is in the treasury. I do not understand there is any vote to spend money that is not in the treasury. If the President and Vice-President are given the control to say how the money in the treasury should be expended, I see no reason why it should not be expended to help you.

The PRESIDENT. Mrs. Dumont, what do you think about it?

Mrs. DUMONT. I think the other members of the Stowell family ought to devise some ways and means of raising money.

Rev. WOODBURY SWEETSER STOWELL. Don't you think you ought to have a definite appropriation for that by vote of the Stowell Association, say an amount not exceeding $100, something like that, so that we will know where we are at?

The PRESIDENT. If you folks think that I have not gone about the matter in the right way, I want your suggestions. This is your association and not mine.

Mrs. ALICE STOWELL ELDER. Mr. President, I have seen some of your work and know something about what you have been doing, and I feel that there are enough members of the Association around Boston to help you out in some of this work without going to a great deal of expense. There may be some expense connected with it, but the letter you have just held up is an example. That was not typewritten, it was not gotten up in the nice form that your reply was, and I do not think that every letter calls for a typewritten reply. I think that some of that correspondence, and perhaps some of the other work that you have got could be given out to some of us members, and we could help you out in some way. I know I am willing to, and I think we can find somebody else who is willing to without incurring an expense of a hundred dollars or two hundred dollars. I think a letter like that one, or those two or three you have showed us, could be answered in longhand. I guess you did read one typewritten letter today. I can't run a typewriter, but I will attempt to answer a few letters in longhand. Of course I know you can do the work best.

The PRESIDENT. The reason I keep carbon copies of them is because it is necessary for future data. There are certain letters that require that, and the major portion of the correspondence is of that nature which does require it. That is the reason for separating the correspondence between the secretaryship and the recording secretaryship. Mrs. MacDougall, who is the new recording secretary, is a stenographer. She lives in the Town of Warren, Rhode Island, and I may have to take an aeroplane down there to get in touch with her. Mr. Stowell's idea is an excellent one, but the only trouble is distance, and you spend a great deal of time getting from one to the other, whereas if I could have a stenographer come to my house I could get this mass of stuff out of the way.

Mr. HENRY MILES STOWELL. A lot of good motions are sometimes talked to death. I would like to call for the question.

The PRESIDENT. Will you put the motion again so we will have it formally?

Mr. HENRY MILES STOWELL. That the Secretary be authorized to hire such help as may be necessary to conduct his office, with the approval of the President and the Vice-President.

The PRESIDENT. You have heard the motion. Is there any question?

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. Do I hear a second? It was seconded. I should like to make an amendment that the amount be limited to $100.

Mr. HENRY MILES STOWELL. I will accept that.

The PRESIDENT. You have heard the motion.

[The motion is put and carried unanimously.]

Mrs. HENRY MILES STOWELL. Mr. President, wouldn't it save a little if only one copy was sent to an address?

The PRESIDENT. That question has been raised before, and I will say this: Yes and no. My knowledge of the addresses could eliminate that. If I got a stenographer in and said, "Send a certain number of copies to these people", they would not know whether Mrs. Raymond Stowell and Mr. Henry Miles Stowell were mother and son unless I went through and picked them out.

Mrs. HENRY MILES STOWELL. I mean one copy to one address.

The PRESIDENT. Yes, it should be done. In your case I did not have time to pick them out. There are two or three isolated cases where there are four or five members in the same family where duplicate copies have been sent. As a whole, out of the 250 odd copies that were sent out I do not believe there were five families that were duplicated.

Mrs. LOTTIE STEBBINS MacDOUGALL. I think from the very reason that Mr. Conger has covered that end of it as he has, he has gained friends. I know that every Stowell I see I try to get them in the family. The president probably has spent quite a little on postage, but it is not lost. It is all for a good purpose.

Mr. HENRY MILES STOWELL. I would like to make one more motion. Perhaps I will make three or four more before the day is over.

I understand this church is given to us without expense, and has been the past three years. And I furthermore understand that nobody was ever thanked for it. I do not know who the proper ones are to thank, but I move you that the Secretary be instructed to send a vote of thanks to the proper ones for the use of this church for the past three years.

[The motion is seconded.]

The PRESIDENT. It is moved and seconded that a vote of thanks be sent to the proper authorities,—the Chairman of the

Parish Committee is Mr. Henry F. Ripley here in Hingham,—for the use of the meeting house and the parish house across the street.

[The motion is put and carried unanimously.]

The PRESIDENT. It is so ordered.

Are there any other motions to be brought before the meeting?

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. I should like to move that a committee on vital statistics be appointed. I do not know exactly what vital statistics are, but I think it would be a mighty good thing to have this committee on vital statistics appointed.

[The motion is seconded.]

The PRESIDENT. It has been moved and seconded that a Committee on vital statistics be appointed—

Dr. STOWELL. Appointed by the President, I might say.

The PRESIDENT. —appointed by the President. May I say this in regard to that, that I have studied that subject a little myself, and it pertains to the histories of the families of certain communities. You get your vital statistics of Peru, Massachusetts, where three-quarters of the Stowells came from. They take that section and go through and get certain families and get all the data they can pertaining to them, and they label them, "Vital Statistics". You have heard the question.

[The motion is put and carried unanimously.]

The PRESIDENT. Is there any other unfinished business to come before the meeting? I believe there were several things to be brought up.

Mr. JEAN H. STOWELL (of Somerville, Mass.) Mr. President, if there is nothing on hand in regard to subscriptions and contributions at our luncheon, you announced that we guaranteed 85 people and we had to make up the difference between what was actually there and the 85.

The PRESIDENT. Yes.

Mr. STOWELL. Well, we cannot ask for donations or subscriptions, but I am going to suggest that some of us will be willing to contribute a little something towards making up that deficit, and perhaps there may be other incidental expenses to be taken care of in connection with today's meeting. As I understand it, Mr. Homer has already received some subscriptions.

The SECRETARY. That is correct. I have received some money on that very proposition already.

Mr. STOWELL. It is not in the form of a motion. I suppose it will go into the minutes of the meeting, but I would simply like to bring it to the attention of the members that contributions will be received.

The PRESIDENT. This is the first year we have had a deficit. We have always run over before. The bill has been paid, $85, and $60 were turned in. There were 60 people present here today, so we have that amount of $25 to make up. I think we have made a very good showing even for today. This is apparently not the logical time to hold our meeting. If we had had it in July, we would have had a rainy day, and not had as many here, but I have had quite a number of reports by mail that people were doing this, that and the other thing, and could not possibly be here,—the opening up of the fall season, schools beginning, people taking up their year's work, and the like, and they have not seen fit to come. Does anybody want to put that suggestion of Mr. Jean H. Stowell's in the way of a motion?

Mr. JEAN H. STOWELL. I did not want to bring the matter up and put it in the form of a motion. Just let it be known that contributions will be received, and I feel that perhaps some will be willing to contribute.

The PRESIDENT. Here are Mr. Homer and Mr. Winfred Lincoln Stowell, the treasurer, sitting back there, and if any of you have got any money or loose change laying around you will know what to do with it.

Mrs. H. A. DUMONT. I would like to make a motion that Mrs. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell be given a vote of thanks for her delightful songs today.

[The motion is seconded.]

The PRESIDENT. It is moved and seconded that a vote of thanks be given Mrs. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell for her musical program given here today.

[The motion is duly put and carried.]

The PRESIDENT. It is so ordered.

Is there anything else to come before the meeting? Last year it was 5.30, but I think we have gotten further ahead than we have ever gotten before.

Before turning it over to Mr. Homer for closing, I want to apologize for having seemingly usurped his position as commanding officer since the election took place.

We have an automobile committee here of which Mr. Jean H. Stowell is chairman. There are quite a number of automobiles here, and those who have not seen the interesting spots of Hingham can take them in. I want to ask you what you think of hiring a bus another year and bringing you from Boston down here, if we should meet here next year. From 8.35 to 10.05 there is no train, which makes it hard to get down here. You lose so much time that you have no opportunity to visit Hingham and the home over here, and Fort Hill, which we wanted you to see, and the place where Samuel Stowell landed, and any number of historical spots here that are really of extreme interest. I do

not say that because, as one party said today when they saw me, they expected to see an old, gray-haired man. I may reach that point, but I haven't yet. I do hope we can work out a scheme to get you here earlier and quicker. I did get the time tables and sent them all out, and took it up with the New Haven Road, and they wanted to know how many we expected here today. But Mr. Wilson, who wrote me, passed away very suddenly. If we could pick up a crowd in a bus, and bring them down here, it might be more satisfactory. What do you think along that line? Would you rather come by train, or would you rather come by bus another year?

Dr. SHAPLEY. Mr. President, I suggest you ask how many people came here by train.

The PRESIDENT. How many people came here by train today? [A number of members raise their hands.] Quite a number. How many would like to come by bus from Boston? [A number of members raise their hands.]

Mr. GEORGE LORING STOWELL. We could have a more appropriate time for the meeting if we came by bus.

The PRESIDENT. Yes. You would not have to lose two hours from one train time of leaving to another, and then you could all pile into the bus here and be landed back in Boston at some logical point where you could take the trolleys for your homes.

Mr. GEORGE LORING STOWELL. Do you plan to meet here another year?

The PRESIDENT. That is up to the executive committee to decide, and you will be promptly notified in regard to that. If that is all, I am going to turn the closing of the meeting over to Mr. Homer.

Mr. HOMER. As Secretary last year I would like to say that the Secretary has cast the vote ordered in connection with electing the slate presented by Mrs. Ruggles, and the people nominated are now the new officers for the ensuing year.

There is one point that we brought up this morning in the Executive Committee meeting which has to my mind not been fully complied with. At that time Mr. Stowell of Federalsburg was mentioned, and he has been introduced to the meeting. I still feel that I would like to hear someone make a motion for a rising vote of thanks to Mr. Stowell of Federalsburg for getting out that pamphlet for us.

[Upon motion duly made and seconded a rising vote of thanks is extended to Mr. Stowell of Federalsburg, Maryland.]

Mr. HOMER. Unless there is further business, which I believe there is not, we will close the meeting.

Dr. ELLERY CORY STOWELL. Mr. President, before you close the meeting I should like to say how much we appreciate

what the retiring president has done for this Association. I think it is phenomenal to see a man take a disorganized family as we were and bring us together, and in these three years we have all seen the tremendous energy, originality and devotion with which he has worked, and I do not think we need to pass any vote, for we all feel it. Before we close this meeting I should like to voice what I know everybody feels about our retiring president.

[Applause.]

The PRESIDENT. I assure you that I appreciate those words of Dr. Stowell's very, very much. I appreciate the help that has been given to me by the Association as a whole, and by those members who have come to me voluntarily and offered their assistance. I do feel as the years go on we get better acquainted and we get more done, and I do bespeak for the incoming officers your unstinted support in their work for the coming year.

Rev. WOODBURY SWEETSER STOWELL. May we have some of the minutes of this meeting read? There have been a good many motions made.

The PRESIDENT. Mr. Stowell, the reporter will have a verbatim copy of what has taken place here this afternoon, and that can be gone over, and if we see any changes are to be made, they can be edited if we wish to do that. I do not think there will be much occasion for that. The reporter asked me if we wanted them edited and I said no. I think he has gotten a fairly accurate account of what has taken place here this afternoon, and the motions can be taken out and put on separate sheets, so that you will know exactly what has taken place before they are printed, if that is what you have in mind, and I take it that it is.

Mr. HOMER. Any further business? Then we will adjourn the meeting by singing the first verse of the "Star Spangled Banner", followed by a benediction by the Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell.

The PRESIDENT. I do want to thank the people for coming out today and for all you have done in making the day a success. I do not believe if we had ordered a day made to order that we could have gotten any finer weather than we have had today. We are only sorry that more of the Family are not here than are here. I think it has been their misfortune not to be present.

[Singing of the "Star Spangled Banner".]

Benediction by the Rev. Woodbury Sweetser Stowell.

And now may the love of God, the grace of the Lord Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest upon and abide with us now and forevermore. Amen.

1066—1927

By CHARLES HENRY STOWELL, M. D.

"Thou shalt not rob me, thievish Time.
Of all my blessings or my joys;
I have some jewels in my heart
Which thou art powerless to destroy."

Hearty greetings to you, Mr. President, and the same to each of your boys and girls, gathered here on this historic occasion.

We are all sure of a good time, for a collection of Stowells means a collection of light hearts, good nature and a realizing sense of duty to those present and those to come.

Macaulay must have had some Stowell blood in his veins, for he said:—

"A people which takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors, will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote descendants."

Let us begin. Who was the first Stowell? Where did he live? What was his given name?

You know an Irishman and a Jew were in a heated conversation over the ancestor question. The Jew said, "My ancestors lived long before yours. They came over in Noah's ark." "That's nothing," said Pat, "my ancestors came over in a boat of their own."

Pat certainly had some Stowell blood in him! He could paddle his own canoe, every time and everywhere. Quite likely he did have some Stowell blood, for many of the early Stowells left England for Ireland, and no better proof of it is needed than the fact that one of the most beautiful castles in all Ireland is Kilbrittain Castle, Cork County, built about 1035 and owned and occupied by a Stowell soon after 1685.

The origin of our English family dates from the arrival, on English shores, of William the Conqueror, 1066. Early writers had much to say about this Stowell family. One says, writing of Cothelstone, now Quantock, "for a long time it hath bin, and still is, the chief seat of the right noble and ancient family of Stowells. They had the honor of knighthood and some of them held honorable offices in Parliament."

Some might ask, "Of what use is all this study of far-gone times? Who cares for such old things?" The Good Book says,

"And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years." Wonder if he made all the boys "keep quiet, stop making so much noise I tell you!" We youngsters were very familiar with such commands from our neighbors and aged grandparents. So we did not always love old people any too well!

In later years, however, when we learned that Methuselah was the grandparent from whom came the Saviour of the World, then things took on a far different outlook. And when, as a grand climax, I was present at the sixty-second wedding anniversary of my father and mother, and saw their snowy-white hair, and wondered at their long continued gentle manners and their soft, sweet voices, I said they were positively beautiful. Thus it might have been with the super-extra-aged Methuselah.

With a great bound over the centuries, we come to Samuel Stowell, our own Samuel. He was from England, of course. But why did he ever leave home? Shall we give it up, and "renounce" the whole business?

You know the young lady would not consent to the marriage until the young man had joined the church. This he promptly prepared to so. So he had two sets of questions to answer, Church and Marriage. How could he keep them carefully separated?

The wedding evening arrived. The church was crowded. The bride was charming. The groom was "frightened to death!" At last, the great question was propounded. "Will you take this woman to be your lawful and wedded wife,"—and so on. The groom was puzzled. He frowned. He hesitated. Then in a clear and strong voice he replied, "I renounce them all!"

But wait. We renounce nothing! Let us proceed. In the history of the Stowell family, under the name of "A Quantock Family," Col. George D. Stowell, of London, says: "A Samuel Stowell was baptized Jan. 5, 1581 in Bath Abbey and was buried Dec. 7, 1628 in Chudleigh Parish." Now, both Bath Abbey and Chudleigh Parish were in Devon County, hence it is reasonably certain these two Stowells, namely "the baptized Stowell" and the "buried Stowell," were one and the same. This authority also tells us that "David Stowell, son of Walter, of 1403, was, in all probability the ancestor of the Devon family." If so, David must have been the ancestor of said Stowell, for both lived in Devon County.

Now the third generation from said David brings us to John, born 1523, who had "**at least** two sons, Jasper and Edmund." It is this **"at least"** that most interest us. It certainly implies more sons than these two. Yes, I say, more than these two.

One more at any rate, and his name was Samuel! You naturally say "You imply too much." Not any more than is implied by every writer and in general business everywhere, every day. To illustrate. I find a man living well, paying his bills promptly, has a fine car, and all that. Am I wrong in my reasoning that he has some source of income I know nothing about?

To condense: David Stowell, b. 1441; Thomas, b. 1466; Edmund, b. 1492; John, b. 1523; Samuel, b. 1581; and our Samuel, b. about 1620, d. 1683.

You ask, why was not Samuel mentioned with his two brothers? A dozen reasons, if you please. I am inclined to believe he incited the displeasure of his parents and so they "cut him off," and he decided to try the new country of which he had heard so much. Or, he may have taken the journey solely for more religious freedom.

At any rate, Mr. President, **he came,** and we are loud in our acclaim of his bravery and of the stamp he placed on American stock.

A few words now of a personal character. Over 40 years ago, in the city of Washington, D. C., I walked into a bank and gave my usual greetings to its president. He said, "We talked about you up at our house last evening, and at the mention of your name the mother of my wife who is on a visit to us from New England said, "Why, he may be a relative of mine. You know all of my folks were Stowells." Thus I obtained my first news of Samuel Stowell. And what news it proved to be! Over 40 years ago, yet something new all the time!

Mrs. Stowell and I began our work and soon had a chart containing hundreds of names and from all parts of the country. This chart was the first published work on the genealogy of the Stowell family. In 1912, I published a book showing more of our work, the first book ever printed on "The Stowell Family." So I may truly claim not to be an amateur on the Stowell genealogy!

Amateur? Listen! I hear a gentle knocking on the door. I call, "Come in." And the answer comes through the closed door; "There is a man here, a Mr. Four-Score Years, and he says that in a short time he will "come in" and sup with you." So I must hasten on.

I cannot describe to you the keen delight and the great profit of our study. Take the town of Newton, as an illustration. Here are the stone foundations of the Stowell home, and nearby are the stone outlines of the barns and sheds. Then, just on the edge of the woods is a triangular plot, the family burial place. This is the Cheney place.

It seems our Samuel had a grandson, Israel, b. 1703, who married Sarah Cheney in 1729. This land was called the "Cheney Farm," a very fertile and valuable property. On the death of Sarah, "he inherited a portion of his wife's father's lands." I have often visited this spot, mentioned above, and let my imagination play to its fullest extent.

On a visit to Keene, N. H., I found a long-lost cousin of my father, a physician of wide repute and a gentleman of the old school. A year after Mrs. Stowell and myself were visiting the school at Exeter, N. H. As we were seated on the piazza of the hotel, I mentioned our visit to Keene, calling the doctor by name. A woman, seated a few feet away, jumped up in the most excited manner and asked if it was true I knew this doctor. Then she said, "He was the doctor who was with me at the birth of each of my seven children. I am so glad to get a word about him, for he was, in my opinion, the greatest doctor that ever lived."

While on one of our many visits to Hingham, we saw the janitor of our sacred church performing his usual duties. I asked him if he knew any one by the name of Stowell, then living in Hingham. "Why, yes," he replied, "there was a Stowell girl, Helen, who married a Harding. Come to the door and I will point out her house." Suddenly he exclaimed, "There she goes now, on her visit to the cemetery." We introduced ourselves, returned to her home with her, and thus began a number of charming visits. The last time we saw her was when we passed her house on our way to our home. She stood in the doorway, waiving her hands, and throwing us the good-bye tokens of friendship and love.

Little did we realize that after the passing of the years, we would count among our dearest friends, our own Dr. E. Channing Stowell, for this Helen Stowell Harding proved to be the sister of Edmund Henry Stowell, who was the father of our own Dr. E. Channing Stowell.

Once while riding through the country, in the days of the horse, one front wheel of the carriage caught in an unseen excavation, and we came to a sudden stop. But the horse kept straight ahead with fright and a broken harness. What were we to do? Then we saw a man running toward us, from a fine looking house, and he exclaimed, "Are you hurt?" We said we were not, but our harness was pretty sick. He said he could soon fix that all right. Straps, cords, hammer and nails, all were soon forthcoming and we were ready to start for home.

If you ever come to Lowell, I said, hunt me up and here is my card. "What's this," he asked, "my wife is a Stowell. She has

her family all written out even to the days of Lord Stowell." So you see, Mr. President, "the woods are full of us!"

The instances related above are only samples of a large number that could be given, but enough is enough!

In conclusion, Mr. President, allow me to thank you for the pleasure you have given me, and for the opportunity of saying to you all—

> Obtain Members to our Association even if you have to call on the State Militia for help!

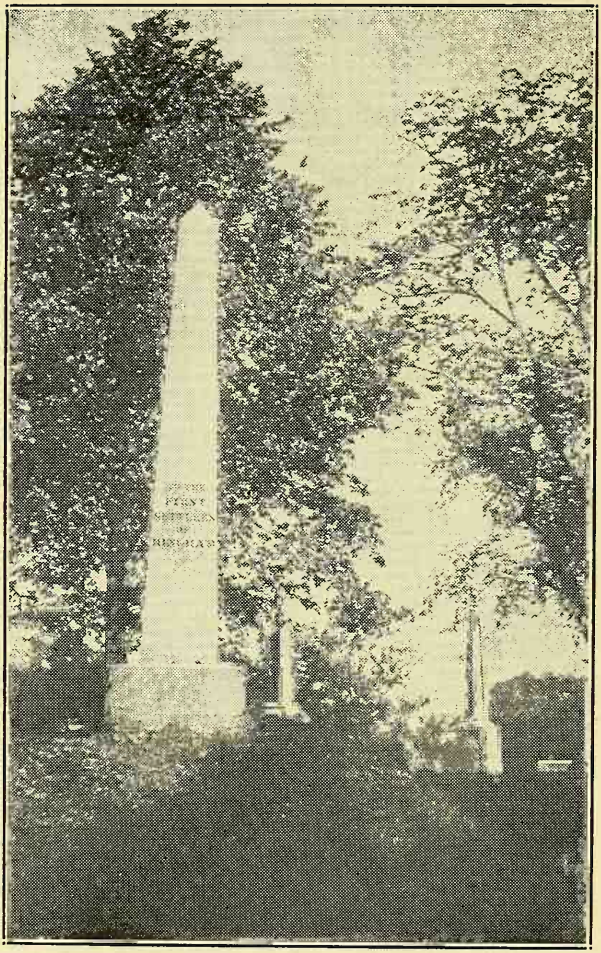
A closing good-bye to you, Mr. President, and a warm handshake in token of your earnest, enthusiastic, and unselfish labors in behalf of—

The Stowell Family.

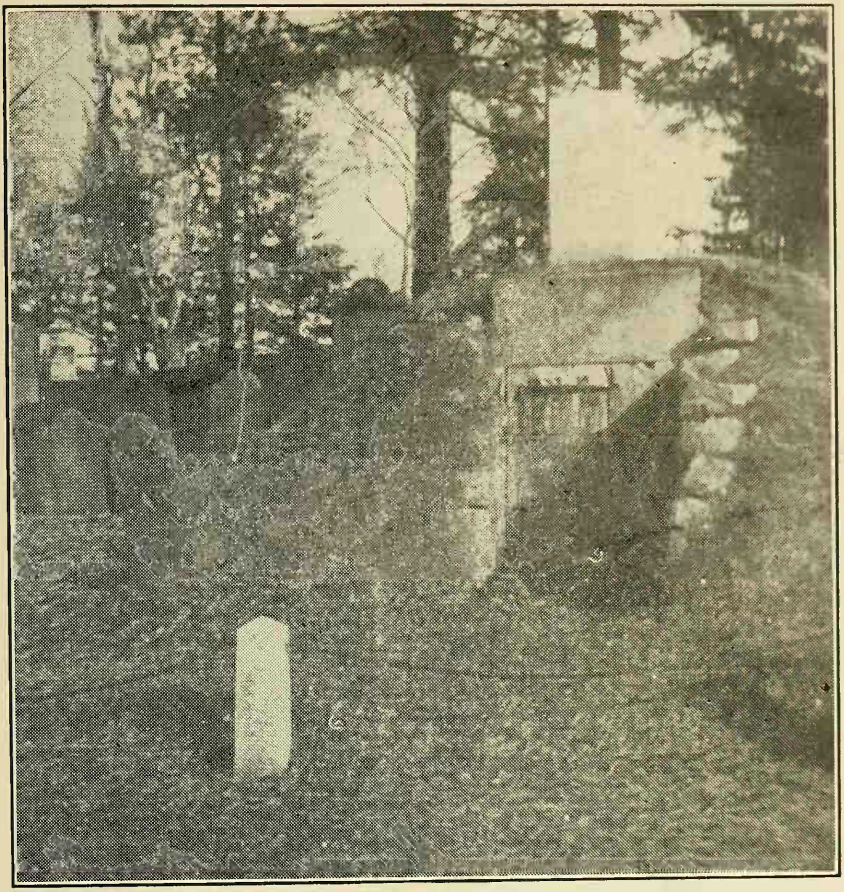
"For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night."

Burial Place of Samuel[1] Stowell.

In conversing with Mrs. Harding she said that in all probability Samuel[1] Stowell was buried in the first burial ground which is now part of the grounds of Derby Academy. When it became necessary to enlarge the grounds of the Academy, all possible care was taken to keep the identity of the graves, in so far as any headstones might indicate. These headstones are now seen around the base of the monument, as illustrated at the end of the driveway. But no marker is there for Samuel[1]. All unidentified remains were buried at the base of this monument. Hence, there is a strong probability that this monument marks the burial place of Samuel[1]. It must be kept in mind, however, that possibly said remains are still in the first burial place.



Closer View of Monument at End of Driveway.



The Gill Vault in Hingham Cemetery.

Mrs. Harding told me she knew that a number of the Stowells were buried in the vault of a relative. She conducted us to the vault and I made a photograph of the front. The names on the marble shaft, over the door, were Caleb Gill and Caty Gill. The Gill family was one of the early settlers of Hingham. Thomas Gill was born in England about 1616, and died in Hingham, 1704-5. Samuel[2] Stowell, b. 1655, married Rachel Gill, daughter of Thomas. The Gill name is also mentioned under Samuel[1]. Thus it was only natural that the Gill vault should have been used also by the Stowells.

MR. STOWELL RETURNS FROM EUROPE.

I left for Europe the latter part of June and spent two months in England and on the Continent. I found that, fundamentally, business men in whichever country I visited, thought as we do. Their problems are quite similar and their reaction quite the same. Of course, they are surrounded by different conditions—different conditions of money values and personal business habits. For example, in London it is always the custom to make appointments in advance of making business calls. Americans can break through that custom but native Englishmen respect it and act on it. I made two personal calls on large companies in London and had the opportunity of talking to the office managers. Their position was quite relative to office management in America, and they were quite as keen, I thought, to discuss the problems of office management as we are here.

In Manchester, England, I had the privilege of visiting the Metropolitan-Vickers Corporation which has a large office building devoted entirely to office work. Their letter writing was centralized and, I thought, most efficiently so; although they had not come to a basis of compensation other than straight salary. That is, of course, not a different attitude that we find in America, although many companies have other systems here for compensating in proportion to accomplishment.

On the Continent there are customs which would seem peculiar to us but which are thoroughly imbedded in the lives of the people there and which apparently cannot be shaken. For example, in Switzerland, the offices are opened early; in some cases, I think, at 7:30 or 8:00. At 12:00 noon the offices are closed and locked and they can neither be reached by personal call nor by telephone. At 2:00 o'clock they are re-opened and many offices stay open until 7:00 and others until 6:00. I talked with one of the substantial business men of Zurich about it, and he said that many of the people there had attempted to change this habit but that they had not been successful in doing it; that for many years the habit had become a regular one and people were reluctant to change.

On the average, American offices are much more modern than those in Europe, I refer particularly to the office layout, conditions of light and air, furniture and fixtures and office machinery, but, I must in the same breath, tell you that I had some very pleasant surprises. In some of the offices that I visited were American office appliances in profusion, each one purchased to do a job economically and efficiently on the same basis that we purchase in this country, and the fine fact to me was the fact that these were American office appliances despite the fact that in many European countries there has been an attempt made to develop a complete line of office machinery similar to what we have here.

There is no question but that all of Europe and the United Kingdom looks to America for the development, manufacture and servicing of office equipment. I found that service to an office after the sale of equipment did not have the same meaning that it does in America. There were many exceptions and I think that my own organization can be classed as an exception, but the fact remains that in many instances in Europe today machinery is sold and the purchaser has full responsibility for it thereafter with no time and attention from the manufacturer or seller of the goods.

I cannot close this comment to you without saying that I was tremendously impressed with the more favorable business conditions in Europe than in the last few years. Things are not rushing at the speed that they do in America, but, nevertheless, business is good and getting better, and I look to see increasingly large export by American manufacturers regardless of the kind of product made, in these next few years.

L. C. STOWELL.

Mr. Leon Carl Stowell, President, Dictaphone Sales Corporation, Graybar Building, New York City, was the main speaker at our July, 1926 meeting, and is deeply interested in the work of our Association.—Editor.

REGISTRATION LIST OF THOSE ATTENDING THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOWELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION

George Loring Stowell, 72 Orange St., Waltham, Mass.

Thomas J. Homer, Jr., 4 Linwood Square, Boston, Mass.

Luther Stowell Conger, #20A Garden St., Beacon Hill, Boston, Mass.

Ellery C. Stowell, 3734 Oliver St., Chevy Chase, Washington, D. C.

Charles C. MacDougall, Warren, R. I.

Lottie H. Stebbins MacDougall (Mrs. Charles C.), Warren, R. I.

Mrs. Harriet King Headrick, 157 West 57th St., New York City.

Mrs. Emily Frances (Lewis) Morse, 110 Village St., Medway, Mass.

Miss Sarah Evelyn Morse, 110 Village St., Medway, Mass.

Eugene Charles Leslie Morse, 4 Humboldt Ave., Worcester, Mass.

Mrs. Mabel Black Morse, 4 Humboldt Ave., Worcester, Mass.

Mrs. Raymond M. Stowell, 224 Common St., Walpole, Mass.

Jean Stowell, Walpole, Mass.

Pamela Stowell, Walpole, Mass.

Raymond Miles Stowell, 224 Common St., Walpole, Mass.

Henry Miles Stowell, 191 Common St., Walpole, Mass.

Annie Rosella Pierce Stowell, 191 Common St., Walpole, Mass.

Rev. and Mrs. Woodbury S. Stowell, 15 Orchard Ave., Brockton, Mass.

Ella Stowell Homer (Mrs. Thomas J. Homer), 4 Linwood Square, Roxbury, Mass.

Miss Gertrude L. Lovett, 16 Whitney St., Amherst, Mass.

Mrs. Marian Webster Sandbrook, 48 Brook St., Brookline, Mass.

John Warren Stowell, Federalsburg, Maryland.

Mrs. J. W. Stowell, Federalsburg, Maryland.

Mr. John Stowell, Freeport, Me.

Mrs. John Stowell, Freeport, Me.

Miss Mildred P. Stowell, Freeport, Me.

Kenneth L. Goding, Canton, Mass.

Mrs. Ella Louise Stowell, 68 High St., Stoneham, Mass.

John Milton Stowell, 68 High St., Stoneham, Mass.

Emma M. Sibley, 15 Blithedale St., Newtonville, Mass.

Elvin D. Stowell, Orange, Mass.

Mrs. Sarah E. Taylor, Claremont, N. H.

Mrs. Lucie E. Mitchell, Lowell, Mass.

John Louis Mitchell, Lowell, Mass.

Wm. H. Matheson (Guest), 84 Gardner St., Allston, Mass.

Bertha May Stowell Mendell, 16 Lovell St., West Somerville, Mass.

Mrs. Ella F. Stowell Ruggles, Arlington, Mass.

Florence Lewis Dumont, 136 Lexington Ave., Cambridge, Mass.

Jane Lewis Dumont, 136 Lexington Ave., Cambridge, Mass.

Lulu Seaver Snow, 68 High St.,Whitinsville, Mass.

Chas. S. Snow, 68 High St., Whitinsville, Mass.

Harlow Shapley, Harvard Observatory, Cambridge, Mass.

Charles L. Stowell, 25 Elston St., Somerville, Mass.

Helen L. Stowell, Concord Rd., Billerica, Mass.

Miss C. Edith Fox (Guest).

Alice Stowell Elder, Concord Rd., Billerica, Mass.

Alex. Stowell Elder, Concord Rd., Billerica, Mass.

Alice Eugenia Elder, Concord Rd., Billerica, Mass.

Helen Eloise Elder, Concord Rd., Billerica, Mass.

Helen Agatha Stowell, 68 High St., Stoneham, Mass.

W. L. Stowell, Jr., So. Weymouth, Mass.

Mrs. W. L. Stowell, Jr., So. Weymouth, Mass.

Meredith D. Stowell, So. Weymouth, Mass.

Jean H. Stowell, West Somerville, Mass.

Mrs. Jean H. Stowell, 14 Warner St., West Somerville, Mass.

Donald Perry, 14 Warner St., West Somerville, Mass.

Lester Perry, 14 Warner St., West Somerville, Mass.

Nathan Wilson Stowell, 604 American Bank Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.

Alice Anna Stowell Fitch, 603 N. Elm Drive, Beverly Hills, Cal.

Orland Parker Fitch, 603 N. Elm Drive, Beverly Hills, Cal.

Henry Jackman Stowell, Pawtucket, R. I.

Mrs. Henry Jackman Stowell, Pawtucket, R. I.